

The DC Gazette

VOL XIII NR 3

March 1982

**WAS IT JUST A COLD
WINTER, OR THE . . .**

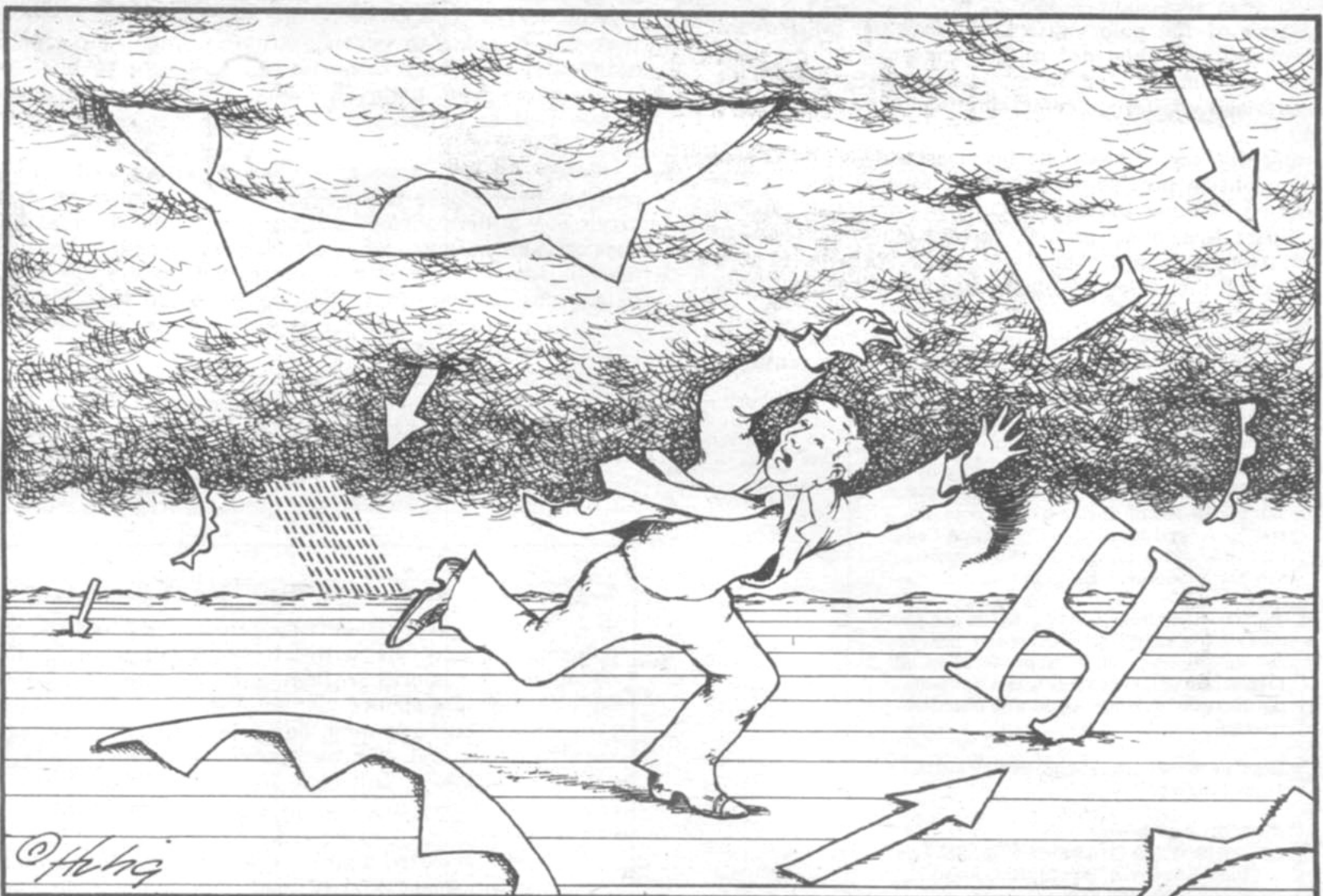
Start of the Ice Age?

**Yahoos
on the
Avenue**

**Starving
the
libraries**

**City
talk**

**Dealing
with Libya**



RATING THE CANDIDATES



Troubled convention

As we went to press there were signs that the statehood constitutional convention, finally, was getting down to serious business. Some of the more rational black and white delegates are attempting to mitigate the damage done in the early days of the convention by a core of delegates who used the organizing period as an arena for their own exotic brand of self-centered politics -- ostensibly in the name of ethnic solidarity but, in fact, largely to indulge misdirected egos.

The group in question has caused political headaches before, most notably at the Board of Education. This time it initially received the tacit or overt support of most of the black delegates who were swept along as the core group managed to racially polarize the convention. Two exceptions were the black councilmembers at the convention, Hilda Mason and Jerry Moore. They'd seen this show before.

The net effect of the polarization was that the minority of whites were effectively read out of participation in the early stages of the convention, and in a manner that would have invited law suits and vociferous complaints had the victims been black.

It was during this period that Charles Cassell managed to win election as convention president over Hilda Mason. But, by the time the election of other officers occurred, the "black caucus" was falling apart and now, as the convention moves on to substantive matters and into committee sessions, there is hope that a majority of the delegates will vote their minds rather than their skins.

There is little that those on the outside can do other than to offer encouragement to those delegates who favor rational

debate and an open convention and to remind those who have other agendas that frittering away the convention with childish political intrigue is an offense not just against a few white delegates but against every black and white Washingtonian who wants statehood.

The big one

The mayor's campaign took two predictable turns last month. Patricia Harris entered it and Sterling Tucker dropped out. Tucker's departure was no surprise because of widely reported trouble he was having raising support and money. Harris's announcement creates an important new factor in the campaign, boosted in no small part by the Post's early drum-beating of her candidacy. Cynical observers of the Post's political coverage tend to believe that Harris is either the paper's first choice or that it will boost Harris as a fall-back option if the mayor stumbles too badly.

This seems to be reading too much into the Post coverage. For one thing, there is a line (although it can get blurred) between the Post's news and editorial divisions. The real problem is that newspaper reporters share many of the same values of newspaper editors. They don't have to conspire; they just naturally see things the same way. They are tremendously impressed with displays of money and power, witness the constant references to Ms. Harris's national reputation even though this is, presumably a local election. For ease of coverage, there is also a natural tendency to try to separate the pack, giving more attention to the presumed front-runners and less to the back of the field. This, of course, becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Another thing of note about the campaign so far, again predictable, is that no one has done anything interesting except raise a lot of money. Former GOP mayoral candidate Art Fletcher said the other day that nobody runs for office any more; it's just a fund-raising derby. In the first few weeks, Barry and Ray had each raised about \$200,000 and Wilson about \$100,000 with Kane far behind at \$25,000. This money is not all the same, however, since some candidates like Ray have to spend their money early to get name recognition while others can be more judicious.

It's too early to know how Harris is going to do, but the general assumption is that money will pour in from around the country in her behalf. There are several doubts however: given that this is going to be an extremely important election year nationally, how much discretionary cash will be available for a campaign in poor little DC? And if Harris gets money from people tied to large corporations will this become a campaign issue?

Barry doesn't appear to have strengthened his political position in the past few weeks, largely because he muffed the city's \$68 million surplus and because of the Pride affair. In the case of the surplus, what should have been a political asset merely found him mired in more controversy. In the case of Pride, despite the fact that no evidence has been revealed linking him to the scandal, its mere prominence becomes a cloud over his fortunes.

Betty Ann Kane's chances (like those of the mayor) rest on there remaining a multiplicity of candidates. She is hurting for money but this might not be as bad as it seems if voters come to recognize that the reason she's hurting is because her water has been turned off by the developer-big business contributors. At this point she can claim the greatest freedom from potential

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The Gazette welcomes articles, letters and photos as well as short stories and poems, but cannot, unfortunately, afford to pay for them. All submissions should be made with a stamped self-addressed envelope if you wish material returned.

Deadline for editorial and advertising matter: 15th of the month.

EDITOR: Sam Smith
CONTRIBUTING CORRESPONDENTS: Chuck Stone, Eric Green, Bob Alperin, Josiah X. Swampoodle, Jon Rowe
CARTOONIST: John Wiebenson

DC GAZETTE
1739 Conn. Ave. NW.
DC 20009
202-232-5544



At right is the Gazette's latest contribution to local political science. As with all seminal concepts, this one undoubtedly requires refinement and we welcome well-documented arguments as to why we are off-the-wall. Further, if you have some better questions to ask, we'd like to know that too. Empty rhetoric and unsubstantiated promises, however, will be rejected out of hand. We will be revising the tout sheet from time to time throughout the campaign.

It should be noted that a simple adding of the number of checks will not necessarily lead you to the right candidate since some issues are considerably more important than others and some issues are far more important to you than they are, say, to us. But at least it may help you find a more rational way to select a candidate than watching idiotic TV commercials.

The Gazette's March Tout Sheet

RATING THE CANDIDATES

	BARRY	KANE	WILSON	RAY	HARRIS	JARVIS
Which candidates have actual experience running a huge bureaucracy like the DC government?	✓✓				✓✓	
Which candidates have the most substantial records of service to the <u>city</u> ?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			
Which candidates have demonstrated themselves able to come up with imaginative solutions to problems?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			✓
Which candidates are the hardest workers?	✓✓	✓✓			✓✓	?
Which candidates are most productive, i.e. get their ideas into action?	✓✓	✓	✓✓		?	?
Which candidates have demonstrated the ability to respond to constituent concerns?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓		?	✓✓
Which candidates are most highly regarded by their present political constituencies?		✓✓	✓✓		?	✓✓
Which candidates have had the fewest questions of personal integrity raised?		✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Which candidates are personally most likeable? (We have to live with the winner for four years)			✓✓			✓✓
Which candidates would be least likely to sell the city out to special interests?		✓✓		?	?	?
Which candidates have the best record on public education?		✓✓✓			?	
Which candidates have the best record on crime and justice?	✓					
Which candidates have the best record on social welfare issues?						
Which candidates have the best record on transportation issues?						
Which candidates have the best record of opposing the DC land-grab and the developer and speculator interests that have fostered it?		✓✓✓		✓		✓
Which candidates have the most neighborhood-oriented records?		✓✓	✓✓			✓✓
Which candidates have the best record on fiscal matters?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			
Which candidates have the strongest record of supporting statehood and greater autonomy for DC?						
Which candidates have the strongest record of supporting human rights?						
Which candidates have the best record on employment and economic issues?						
Which candidates have the best record on housing issues?	✓✓				?	
Which candidates are best able to deal with a complex issue intelligently rather than through rhetoric or simplistic solutions?	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	?	?	?
Which candidates would be least likely to develop foot-in-mouth disease?		✓✓		✓✓		✓✓
Which candidates would you least mind finding yourself in disagreement with on a particular issue?			✓✓			✓✓

KEY: Three checks = outstanding; Two checks = good; one check = nothing to brag about but better than some of the rest. A question mark = insufficient data.

influence by big money interest. It should be also noted that Kane has been underestimated in every campaign she has run. She doesn't make a lot of noise but she always has a good organization, works like hell, and approaches politics with the patience of a goldminer rather than in the more typical contemporary style of just going after the surface nuggets.

Kane has several political liabilities besides her race. One is that she is not in favor with tenant groups because of her willingness to compromise on rent control. Statehood supporters may find her stinginess about funding the constitutional convention a matter of concern. Finally, she may have lost some of her old supporters in Ward III because of a particularly hard-ball letter she wrote on behalf of Mary Ann Keefe during last year's school board campaign.

John Wilson, who like Ray has something of a name recognition problem, has launched an early TV campaign. Observers seem to agree that the commercials are clever -- but they start to drag when Wilson himself appears.

The big questions for Harris are: what will be her issues and how will she handle the rough-and-tumble of a campaign? She is not known for her skill at personal relationships and it will be interesting to see whether she adapts to more flexible style required of a politician compared to that of a bureaucratic boss.

Ray has one of the best image machines in the campaign. Since he has a less developed record than most of the other candidates, he will have to depend on voters making a personal judgement that he is the sort of person they can trust. There is some evidence that he is getting help from the Kennedy machine, witness Bobby Kennedy Jr.'s willingness to work the streets with him last month.

Finally, Charlene Jarvis, who at month's end was neither fully in nor out of the race, is pretty much of an enigmatic factor. One can perceive of the possibility that voters will get fed up enough with the rest of the candidates that they might catch interest in her late in the campaign. On the other hand, Jarvis is going to be around for a while, she is part of a new generation of local leaders, and the campaign is a fine time to get out and introduce herself to future potential supporters.

How we're tending. . .

This is the most befuddling campaign we've seen in a long, long time. All the candidates have something to recommend them; all offer some reasons to oppose them. There is not a bad, evil or ideologically objectionable person in the lot. We could live with all of them; we could get mad at all of them. Money aside, however, the two contenders people should probably take most seriously at this point are Marion Barry and Betty Ann Kane. Barry's faults and virtues have been suggested here too many times to repeat again right now. Betty Ann Kane is, among the candidates, perhaps the hardest working and most capable of the lot. Only Kane, Barry and Wilson have done enough in the city to give us a firm handle on what sort of mayor they would be. Kane would be serious; no-nonsense and efficient. The big question with her seems to be whether she would be able to work politically with the various elements of the city or whether her mayoralty would harden into the sort of self-righteousness of people who knows they're smart and correct and shouldn't have to put up with all this crap. Unfortunately, being mayor requires not only the proper execution of duties but the proper handling of random political

THE D.C. STATEHOOD PARTY WANTS YOUR VALUABLE JUNK
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March 20, 10-5, corner of 17th & Q Sts., N.W.
(rain date - March 27)

PROCEEDS TO PAY FOR A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE
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For info on where to bring your junk: pls call
Jo Butler, 265-0307 or Debby Hanrahan 462-2054

Also, donations to the fund are welcome. Please
make checks payable to Julius Hobson Memorial
Plaque Fund and send to the Central Post
Office, P.O. Box 28311, Washington, D.C. 20005

excretions. Kane has not been known for her skill, for example, in working with, and convincing, other politicians on either the school board or the city council.

Still, she is one of the few candidates in which one can have reasonable faith that she will not be wheeling and dealing every chance she gets. Note the adjective "reasonable." One frequent ally of Kane said the other day, "She's very ambitious but I've never known what she really believes in." It's a concern to be considered. Nonetheless, if your major concern is how this city has been taken over by developer interests, Kane is the logical choice.

John Wilson would probably be the most enjoyable mayor. Even when he made us mad, we'd be telling funny stories about how he did it. Wilson also is perhaps the most up-front politician, in the best sense, of the lot. He is not embarrassed about making compromises or backing off of positions when he finds they don't go anywhere. Talking to people in Ward Two one can't help but be struck by how many interests seem reasonably satisfied by Wilson's performance and how many people of differing race and economic interest like him. Regardless of his image of being erratic and something of a flake, if you examine Wilson at the level of the constituency he represents, he appears a shrewd and effective politician. Don't count him out.

Jarvis won a place in our hearts by attempting to have the council gain some control over the machinations of the RLA. She, like Wilson, is well regarded in her own ward. But she faces a serious political problem in running for mayor and hasn't really established enough of a record to tell what she would do.

At this point Patricia Harris remains largely a question mark. What are her issues? Is she, for example, going to tell us how she would have voted on the convention center? What she will do about Capitol Gateway? While she's at it, she might explain whatever happen to the Carter administration's great plans for the South Bronx?

Finally, there is John Ray. To vote for John Ray you have to take an awful lot on faith. His record simply doesn't match up to his rhetoric. This is not to say that his record as mayor would necessarily be similarly deficient, only that those who are supporting him should realize that they are choosing hope over evidence. Given the nature of politics, this may be a decision many of us are forced into, but it seems a little early yet.

Just politics

- Andrea Gonzalez, a Metro worker, will be the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor. She ran unsuccessfully for the school board in 1981.

- The Post reported last month that Dominic Antonelli and firms with which he is associated have given \$57,000 to the mayoral campaigns of Barry, Ray and Wilson. This makes Antonelli the biggest money force in the campaign so far and, according to the Post, marks "the first time that any one person has assumed such a dominant role in local campaign financing here." Wilson got the most, \$26,000, or 28% of the money he has raised so far, Ray got ten percent or \$19,000 and Barry got seven percent or \$12,000. Says Wilson, "If the question is are we for sale, the answer is no. If the question is are we accepting campaign contributions, the answer is yes. Let me make it perfectly clear so we understand. Everything they have wanted to do we have opposed."

- John Ray's claiming the football vote with seventeen Redskins players and former players endorsing him.

- John Wilson notes that the hand gun ban in Morton Grove, Illinois, that has received national attention should sound familiar to DC voters. It's the same law Wilson proposed back in 1975. Says Wilson, "Thanks to the strong opposition of gun lobbyists, that first law was rejected, but I'm very pleased to see that lawmakers in other jurisdictions realize the importance of approving the toughest possible controls on handguns." Following the rejection of the first proposal, Wilson introduced less stringent legislation which was passed.

- The local chapter of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee holds its second annual local convention this spring, probably in April. In March the national DSOC and the New American Movement will formally merge. DSOC is conducting a discussion series on ideas and issues in current marxist thinking. Call 296-7693 for details.

- Dave Clarke still ruminating over whether to run for city council chair. Unconfirmed rumor department: Is, or was, Sterling Tucker thinking about the city council chair's campaign after dropping out of the mayor's race?

GRAY PANTHERS

For a secure Social Security System, join us.

SOCIAL SECURITY IS IN DANGER!!

REAGAN SAYS he won't touch Social Security but

REAGAN DOES recommend cuts in benefits that affect the young, the elderly, and those in-between because

IF YOU BECOME DISABLED: A disability pension will now be granted only if you are so handicapped or ill that you cannot function in any capacity. Heart and other illness-impaired people are now being thrown off the rolls. We learned of one case of a paraplegic who was declared ineligible for a pension.

IF YOU WANT TO RETIRE BEFORE AGE 65: So you are not qualified for a disability pension but you are not able to work full time and want to retire early. There is a proposal to cut that pension amount to 55% of the full benefit if you retire at 62. Now it is 80% of the full benefit.

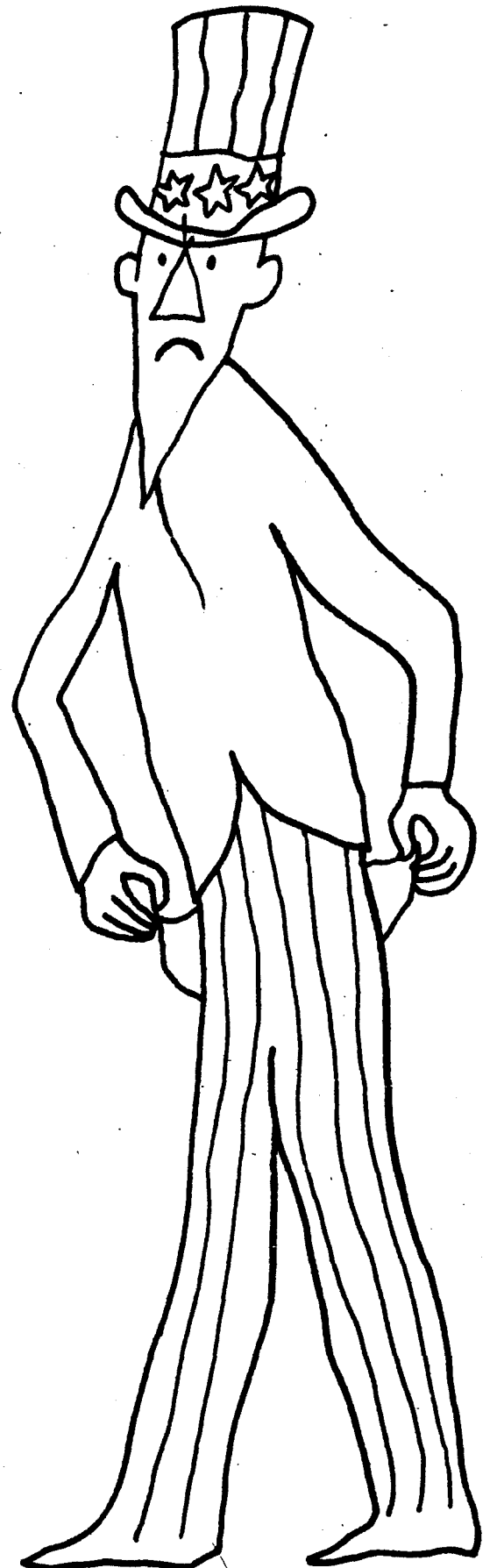
IF YOU RETIRED ALREADY AND ARE GETTING YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY PENSION: Now you receive a once a year cost of living increase. That increase depends on the figures calculated by the Department of Labor. There will be a cut in this increase because the basis of this calculation has been changed to reflect a lower increase in the inflation rate. There will be a further cut in the cost of living adjustment if proposals go through to slow down its payment or to eliminate it altogether.

IF YOU ARE A LOW-PAID WORKER (MINORITIES AND WOMEN): You will not be given a minimum benefit. \$122. a month is and has been the minimum monthly benefit for those people who are getting their checks now. Future beneficiaries will no longer get this minimum - - - only the amount that the formula provides.

THIS IS ONLY A PARTIAL LISTING OF PROPOSALS TO CUT BENEFITS

IS THE SYSTEM BANKRUPT? Don't you believe it. The Reagan administration wants to shift pension planning to the private sector. That gets more money into private investors' hands and makes receipt of pensions more chancy. Present tax shelters (IRAs and Tax deferred certificates) cannot take the place of a public pension system which provides for (or it should) the majority of Americans, INCLUDING THE POOR. So far, none of the private tax shelter programs yield the same benefits as those of the Social Security System.

THE GRAY PANTHERS are devoting themselves to the cause of keeping our Social Security system intact. Most Americans want this too.



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The Gray Panthers, c/o Calvary Baptist Church, 755 8th Street,
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of Metropolitan Washington



Roses & Thorns

ROSES TO ERSTWHLE GAZETTE ASSOCIATE EDITOR CARL BERGMAN AND MARGIE ODLE who, as they say in the computer trade, merge their files this month.

THORNS TO THE BARRY ADMINISTRATION for moving so slowly to set up the police civilian review board. Although the board theoretically came into existence late last year, at month's end it still lacked a director, an office and any action on a growing backlog of cases that may be accumulating at the rate of seven or eight per day. A city council aide involved in establishing the board blames the delay on bureaucratic inertia rather than deliberate stonewalling. In any case, it's a serious glitch.

THORNS RETRIEVED FROM BEN FRANKLIN of the New York Times. A few months back we gave Franklin thorns for a shoddy story on DC's status problems. Franklin, however, restituted himself by writing a nice piece on the opening of the statehood convention. All is forgiven.

THORNS TO REP. Phil Crane for suggesting that the 14th Street Bridge be renamed "Heroes' Bridge." There's no tragedy so grim that some politician can't try to make hay out of it.

THORNS TO MAYOR BARRY AND HOUSING DIRECTOR MOORE for leaving four public housing projects without heat and hot water. A DC judge had to order Barry and Co. to get things squared away pronto. Competence and compassion seems to be sagging a bit.

THORNS TO CITY CONTROLLER ALPHONSE HILL for his proposal that would require cash, cashier's checks or money orders for payment of tickets and permit fees under \$50. Fortunately, the outcry has probably killed the idea, but you do have to wonder about the sort of person who would even float such a suggestion. As Betty Ann Kane said, "Can you imagine the mess if over 200,000 car owners have to line up in person to pay cash for tag renewals -- or 10,000 lawyers have to show up to pay \$25 cash for their professional license fee?"

ROSES TO TOM SHERWOOD for his Post piece telling how a majority of the city council, which had sponsored no-fault insurance seven months ago, backed off the idea after intense lobbying by the trial lawyers.

ROSES TO THE MILTON COMPANIES for engaging in good faith negotiations with the Glover Park community in the course of planning a new development on Wisconsin Avenue on the site of the Calvert Liquor Shop. Other developers please copy.

THORNS TO THE METRO POLICE, which have turned from harrassing apple-eaters to using macho cop tactics against fare cheaters. The undercover squad is known as The Rollers and they actually handcuff and take to jail people who cheat the system out of 65-cent fare. This is one more example of a violation that should be handled by writing a ticket rather than invoking the full paraphernalia of arresting a serious criminal. Not only is it a waste of money and police time, it is the sort of thing that tends to blur the distinction between major and minor offenses.

ROSES TO BALAINE HARDEN for his find recent articles on boredom and psychiatrists. Harden is one of the Post's real gems.

ROSES TO TV GUIDE which, unlike the Post, has begun listing the schedule of Howard University's WHMM-TV.

ROSES TO MARK PLOTKIN, Democratic candidate for the Ward Three Council seat, for calling for elected public service commissioners.

• Marie Bembrey, former aide to Marion Barry, has formed an exploratory committee preliminary to a possible run for Walter Fauntroy's seat.

• Strange primary doings on the GOP side of town. We'll save the goodies until next month.

• John Wilson claims the longest and most successful record of sponsoring and passing legislation of any member of the city council. Any challengers?

• Democrats meet March 18th in ward caucuses, 6-8 pm, to nominate persons to represent the city at the National Democratic Mid-Term Conference. The actual participants will be selected by the state committee at a March 25th, 7 pm, meeting. Only caucus locations given us at press time were the 2nd District HQ for Ward Three and Peoples Congregational Church for Ward Four. Call the committee, 347-5670, for other locations. Ward Two and Eight will meet after their caucus on March 18th to form a ward organization.

Squeezing the libraries

The library system has been a budgetary backwater for many years. Budget increases have failed to keep pace with either inflation or other departmental raises. Last year, in fact, the budget was cut. In fiscal year 1972 the library had enough money to support 597 employees. Last year it could only pay 400.

So in the beleaguered world of DC public libraries, the fact that the mayor and council came up with a slight increase in the system's budget this year is cause for some happiness if not rampant joy. The budget will not allow any expansion in staffing, services or hours. As one witness on the library's budget said, "It will perpetuate the present austere situation."

When social scientists attempt to quantify the quality of life in a city or the quality of an university or college one of the prime things they consider is the library system. You can tell a lot from books. One of the most devastating portions of Mark Harris's memoir of Richard Nixon's gubernatorial campaign was his description of the Nixon personal library. A library is not a piece of expendable fluff for either a city or a person. It's a little like the pituitary gland. It may not look very important but it is.

Politicians tend not to take library systems seriously. They see them as easy places to squeeze another nickel in order to balance the budget. Fortunately, the libraries here have their advocates and have managed to at least halt the disintegration of the system.

People, unlike politicians, use libraries. Here in DC, circulation is up 4% over the previous year, telephone inquiries are up 3.6% and occupancy is up 2.6%. More people come.

People, unlike politicians, use libraries. Here in DC, circulation is up 4% over the previous year, telephone inquiries are up 3.6% and occupancy is up 2.6%. More people came into the DC libraries last year than attended all the home games of the Redskins, Bullets, Capitals and Diplomats combined. Visitors to the libraries in 1981 would have filled all the theaters of the Kennedy Center 250 times.

Yet despite the need, the average per capita expenditure on the book fund here last year was \$1.14. Baltimore County spends \$3.19, Montgomery County \$1.79 and Prince Georges County \$1.36. Further, the annual library budget for the repair and maintenance of the system's 21 libraries is \$100,000, \$4700 a building or 12.86 cents per square foot. The city of Alexandria spends about 65 cents per square foot in maintenance.

In an effort to fill some of the gap left by a largely indifferent city government, the National Home Library Foundation has announced a matching grant program that will provide two dollars for every one dollar raised by a neighborhood Friends of the Library group for the purchase of new books. Friends groups must raise at least \$500 and there is an upper limit of \$2500 on the grants. Friends groups are being formed all over town. Check to see if your library has one.

Budget bungle

Marion Barry, who should have come out of last fiscal year showered with praise for producing a \$68 million surplus found himself last month bogged down in more political controversy over his handling of the budget. As in all budgetary matters the problem is complex, the data is incomplete and motives are mixed. But as best as we can size it up, here's what has happened:

The underestimation of city revenues was an honest error - and a rare one. There is no evidence that the mayor deliberately underestimated revenues.

In keeping with the tradition of the previous administration, however, Barry did not provide the city council with timely information on the actual cash position of the city. This tradition is a bad one and needs to be changed. In some locations the executive and legislative branch meet monthly to get current revenue and expenditure figures.

The mayor's people claim that releasing such unaudited data would have led to even greater political problems. This argument, however, is made from the perspective of a situation in which the flow of fiscal information is not routine. If the release of data was frequent and routine, both the mayor's office and the council would be less likely to try to make a political issue out of it. Imagine, if you can, the federal government releasing employment, cost of living and other economic information only annually. There would be a huge political uproar every time. Because the data is available monthly, trends are spotted earlier, and the political debate is carried out on a more rational basis.

The second problem with Barry's approach is that he misled the public and the city council concerning the disposition of the surplus. Contrary to the statements of his staff, the \$68 million did not all have to be used for retiring long-term debt and the council did not have to accept without question his revenue estimates. Obviously, if revenues last fiscal year were higher than projected, it changes the revenue base for this fiscal year and next. The city council has a perfect right to consider this change in approving a budget. For the mayor's office to suggest otherwise reflects either a lack of understanding of the law or an attempt to gain for the mayor more discretion over spending than the law envisions.

Finally, we were disturbed by what seemed to be an attempt to politicize the independent audit. It may seem like a small matter, for example, but it is highly questionable for an independent auditor to present to the press data on flip charts, each emblazoned with the slogan "DC on the Grow." The first thing an independent audit should be is independent.

In sum, Barry gets an A for producing a surplus and a F for what he did after he produced it.

Yahoos on the avenue

The multiple barbarisms of the yahoos of the Pennsylvania Avenue development area would be hard to exceed, but it looks like it's about to happen. Washington's most incorrectly named agency, the Fine Arts Commission, has given preliminary approval to a hundred foot high neo-fascist excrement known as the naval memorial arch. This superfluous and offensive

structure is planned for the foot of Eighth St. at Pennsylvania Avenue. Through it you will be able to gaze up at National Portrait Gallery, at least on those occasions when the portable bandstand designed to slip into the middle isn't in place.

Even Post planning critic Benjamin Forgey admits that the arch is the "biggest dose of architectural corn since Benjamin Latrobe stuck those corncob capitals atop the columns in the Capitol."

Forgey compared the proposed arch, mostly unfavorably, to other famous arches ranging from that of Titus in Rome to that of Eero Saarinen in St. Louis. But he failed to make the logical comparison. The naval arch has far more in common with the Eiffel Tower at King's Dominion or other such theme park attractions, in that it serves no aesthetic function other than as a back-drop for a photo to send to your sister-in-law. The arch, like its theme park siblings, bears no relationship to anything around it. It certainly will do nothing, for example, to enhance the presently appealing block of old stores nearby on Indiana Avenue.

Our aesthetic ayatollah, J. Carter Brown, not surprisingly, is thrilled by this new kitsch. He calls it "an arch that sings." Brown, who chairs the Fine Arts Commission, and whose comments on local planning matters are becoming increasingly bizarre, says, "It's good to bring that vocabulary to the north side of the avenue. For a long time it's been as if all the people were dressed for a party on the south side of the avenue, with those that didn't receive their invitations on the other side."

In fact, there was a pretty good party going on the north side until the southsiders decided to crash it with their land speculation cum grand plan scheme. The southsiders, of course, have proved not only to be party-crashers but immense bores as well. Now, having wrecked the western portion of the avenue, they are heading pell-mell into a segment that some optimistic souls had thought might retain a bit of the flavor of the city of which Pennsylvania Avenue used to be a part. Some token recognition of the need for a scale less than ponderous and pretentious, for housing, for locally-oriented shopping and activity now appears in as much trouble as Rhodes Tavern. For a more sensible approach to this particularly portion of the avenue you might want to dig out John Wiebenson's article in the Post Outlook section on February 21. Archhorse, say, "cities can be fun."

J. Carter Brown, the Fine Arts Commission and the Pennsylvania Avenue Developers Commission's idea of fun is exemplified by the proposed destruction of Rhodes Tavern, the construction of the cement badlands known as the Western Plaza and the erection of an arch, supposedly to commemorate those lost at sea, but which may come to symbolize what we all in Washington lost on land.

The New York Times reports that even Metro conductors are inflicted by bureaucratism; one announced that the reason for a delay in the subway was that "We have a problem train being removed from the revenue portion of the railroad."

§

There's a move afoot for an anti-nuclear referendum in DC patterned on similar efforts in other states. Big names and big money are said to be involved, but don't seem to be paying too much attention to local peace and black groups. Could turn out that we have something other than water bills to talk about in the mayoral campaign after all.

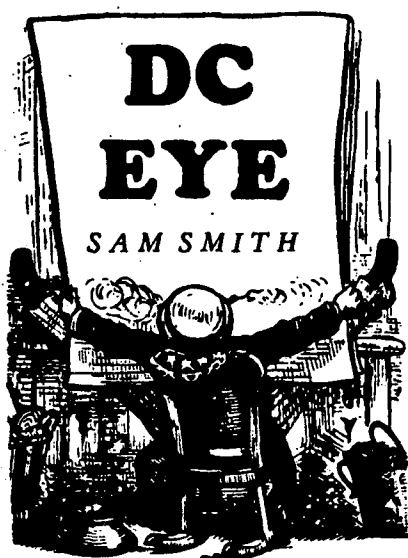
.... Meanwhile a group called Ground Zero is preparing for a week of events (April 18-25) to educate people about the danger of nuclear war and the human costs of preparing for one.

§

Given the recent criticism of local revenue estimates, it's worth noting that a study of the last 19 presidential budgets shows that revenues were overestimated 9 times.

§

Newest PAC in town is being set up by the Playground swingers club, aided by something called the First Amendment



Consumer and Trade Society, "to counteract threats of harassment that the club says it has experienced at the hands of city officials." The stated purpose of the new PAC is to "get rid of 'peeping-tom public officials and install as public servants men and women who respect the privacy and personal freedoms of consenting adults." A hit list of city officials targeted for removal from office is being developed. Heading the list at present is police chief Maurice Turner Jr.

§

"I will be continuing my support of the preservation of Washington's neighborhoods and its beautiful and valuable architecture, including these three buildings on 15th St." Who said that? I'll give you a hint: one of the three buildings is Rhodes Tavern. Come to think of it, that doesn't help much, so I'll tell you. It was Hizoner during the campaign of 1978.

§

Questions of the month: is Robert J. McClosky, ombudsman of the Post, trying to bore us out of complaining to the paper? Whom do you complain to in order to get a more readable ombudsman?

§

Important hearing on child care centers comes up before the Zoning Commission on March 15. Among the issues to be addressed is whether to permit before and after school programs serving a group of no more than five children as a matter-of-right in R1, R2 and R3 districts and whether child care facilities should be permitted as a matter of right in other residential districts. Ask about Case 81-18 if you want details.

§

If you're buddy-buddy with the mayor, you might get to fill one of the up-

coming vacancies on the Appeals and Review Board, Arts & Humanities Council, Convention Center Board, Hackers License Appeals Board, Historic Records Advisory Committee, Housing Finance Agency Board, Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, Minority Business Opportunity Commission, or the Committee on the Issuance and Use of Police Press Passes. Oh yes, the city also needs a prehistoric and an historic archeologist for the Joint Committee on Landmarks right now. Call the mayor's office to find out how to get named.

§

There's a handgun control law now pending in Chicago. The measure was introduced by Mayor Jane Byrne but the model was DC's own tough handgun law drafted by Dave Clarke.

§

Don't invite the Metropolitan Planning and Housing Association's Jim Harvey and local housing chief Bob Moore to the same party. They've been trading nasty letters ever since Moore decided to end its contract with MWPFA to provide cooperative housing services to low and moderate income tenants.

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§

That was a nice piece in the Georgetown, outlining the questionable activities that led to the present sorry state of affairs regarding Rhodes Tavern. The Georgetown story, based on details of a congressional investigation, was particularly critical of Don't Tear It Down, J. Carter Brown and David Childes. According to the congressional investigative report, a small group within DTID "dominated the public negotiations while secretly agreeing with Mr. Carr not to advocate preserving Rhodes Tavern nor to contest its demolition. The investigators claim this agreement was made without the knowledge of the membership of DTID and was concluded before Carr attained ownership of Rhodes Tavern.

The investigation was apparently triggered by Rep. Sidney Yates, who chairs the subcommittee with oversight over the NCPC, the Commission of Fine Arts, Department of Interior and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The investigation raised questions about the role of former NCPC chair David Childes. Childes served as chair while working as Carr's architect and testifying before the Joint Committee on Landmarks that "Rhodes Tavern should be put out of its misery." After criticism of Childes's dual role, he declined reappointment to the NCPC in 1981.

The congressional report also notes that Fine Arts Commission chair J. Carter Brown's early "irresponsible and damaging statements concerning Rhodes Tavern had, and continue to have, a chilling effect on citizen efforts to attain official support for the preserva-

tion of this important landmark." At one point Brown said that whatever historic significance Rhodes Tavern had could be "preserved on a plaque attached to new construction on the site."

§

Harold Goldstein, whose letter on the state of things at UDC appears elsewhere in this issue, takes offense at our comments supporting UDC's new downtown campus scheme. He says it's a terrible assumption to believe that it will require no cash outlay by the city. "UDC's financial planning has been horrendous and I'm sure we'll find ways to bungle this one." He adds that "Van Ness is inconvenient to students but it's only a few extra subway minutes from downtown and for those not near the subway parking is infinitely easier."

"I think the Van Ness campus is the ugliest imaginable."

"It would not be a benefit to the students to have another site: more potential travel between classes, advisors and registering; having to travel to libraries, campus activities etc. In fact there are no advantages to an additional campus. We need more space where we are now."

§

A couple of alert readers have caught mistakes in the last issue. The name of the new black newspaper is, of course, the North Star not the Northern Star as we called it. And the book Arthur Wheelock wrote is about the painter Vermeer, not Vameer. I was introduced to culture during my Philadelphia days and have a tendency to spell artistic things according to Philadelphia phonetics.

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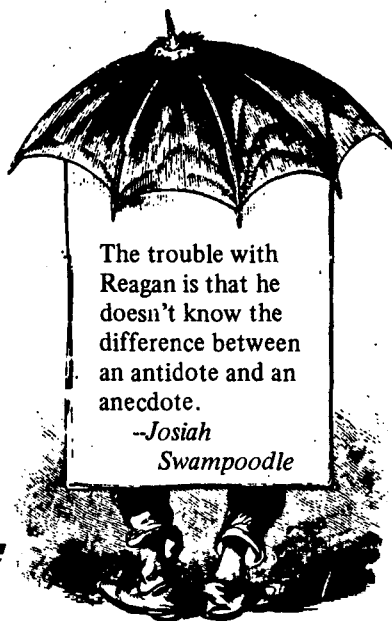
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Report

COMING OF A NEW ICE AGE?

Bruce Gardner



When arctic cold swept across the eastern United States in January, 1981, many Americans thought they had seen the worst that weather could offer. Frigid new records were set in areas as widespread as Atlantic City, New Jersey (4 degrees F), Baltimore (8 degrees), Richmond, Virginia (6 degrees), and Maine (-24 degrees).

Then 1982 arrived, eclipsing all that. On January 11, lows of 2 degrees were registered in New Jersey, -4 degrees in Maryland, -11 degrees in Virginia, and in Chicago, an all-time low of -26. It was the "coldest day of the century," the National Meteorological Center declared. Nine deaths were blamed on the 1981 chill. The 1982 death toll already exceeds 250.

Indeed, the last 10 years have brought a series of record winters, not just in North America, but in Europe and other regions as well. The 1973 World Meteorological Organization bulletin listed scores of record weather extremes during 1972. George and Helena Kukla of Columbia University's Lamont-Dougherty Geological Observatory measured, via satellite photography, a 4 million-square-kilometer increase in 1971 mean annual snow cover over 1970 for the Northern hemisphere.

They noted that only seven consecutive winters of similar severity could establish an ice cover matching in area, if not depth, the glacial cover of the last ice age. We are about 10,000 years into an "interglacial," a period between ice ages.

Contrary to widespread predictions of a disastrous warming trend—a "greenhouse effect" caused by increased carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere, threatening to melt the polar ice caps—the next ice age may, in fact, be underway.

According to Kukla, recent research shows that in the last interglacial, some 120,000 years ago, climatic changes came fast. Wooded areas in the latitudinal range of modern France went in a few decades from the deciduous forests associated with temperate zones, to pine and birch forests, such as are now found in Lapland. By 200 years later, treeless tundra took over.

This winter's extreme cold, like recent droughts, volcanic eruptions and other unusual earth behavior, may be part of a pattern that began four decades ago, when the planet started to cool.

The earth continually warms and cools as its movement around the sun varies in a pattern known as the "Milankovitch mechanism." But only in the most recent geological era is the chill known to have gone so far that ice formed and endured on the planet's surface. The whole Pleistocene era, spanning the last 3,000,000 years, from which the earliest traces of the human species originate, has been characterized by a series of lengthy glaciations, separated by much shorter, 10,000 year inter-glacials. The last major glaciation occurred 10,000 years ago.

The Milankovitch mechanism involves three distinct cycles, of 100,000, 40,000 and 20,000 years, linked to the shape of the earth's orbit and the wobble and tilt of its axis of rotation. Together, these cycles comprise an intricate but predictable variation in the distribution of solar energy reaching the earth. At present—as happened before the last ice age—all three cycles are working to cool the earth's climate.

In January, 1978, the worst snowstorms in 40 years hit Switzerland and other parts of Europe. On February 19, 1979, for the first time in living memory, snow fell on localities in the Sahara desert.

Other weather phenomena have also set new records since 1940. An accelerating tornado count brought twisters to unexpected places. Drought-fostered forest and brush fires of unprecedented extent stormed through Alaska and California during severe heat waves in 1977.

In this same 40-year-period, earth phenomena not usually classed with weather also reached new extremes. The U.S. earthquake count rose rapidly, with 16 times more significant quakes in 1976 than were recorded in 1940. Mt. St. Helens provided only the most dramatic indication of an upsurge in volcanic activity.

Data gathered by numerous scientists suggest that all these phenomena could be linked to the earth's cooling trend. In 1977, an international team of leading climatologists published a paper in the prestigious British journal *Nature*, stating: "Our data do not show a reversal in the cooling of the Northern hemisphere."

Nevertheless, much recent scientific speculation has focused on a theory that predicts a warming of the planet, bring significant glacial melting and coastal

flooding. The warming theory is built on the fact that human activity, particularly the burning of fossil fuels, has increased CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere, effectively creating a "greenhouse," which traps heat from escaping into outer space. But, at least so far, no actual measurements show such a warming in the Northern Hemisphere.

In other words, there may still be too little CO₂ in the atmosphere to counteract the earth's cooling and stave off glaciation.

To understand why, a look back is helpful.

For most of its history, the earth was warmer than it is now—more densely foliated, often tropical even in today's temperate latitudes, and iceless—even at the poles.

By about 300 million years ago, the great forest, jungle and oceanic organisms had become so fecund that they, in a sense, brought on their own destruction. Instead of recycling CO₂ into the atmosphere, they trapped it in bogs and swamps, thereby producing today's fossil fuels.

Some geoscientists theorize that their burgeoning growth withdrew enough CO₂ from the atmosphere to weaken the greenhouse effect, to the point where standing ice could form. At that point the Milankovitch cycles, which in past ages would have merely moved the climate from hot to warm, triggered glaciation.

The once-majestic intercontinental forests were vanquished by blades of ice and driven back to a narrow equatorial band. The biosphere has never, to this day, recovered from the colossal damage. Fledgling humanity inherited a planet balding with new deserts.

Thus, the return of CO₂ to the atmosphere, together with the "heat pollution" of fossil fuel combustion, has not been a bad thing for mankind or the rest of the biosphere. The years 1880-1940 were unusually favorable, with growing seasons, rainfall and growing areas expanded because of warming. Irving Kaplan of the International Institute of Integrative Technology attributes these conditions to the industrial revolution, with its tremendous CO₂ and heat production.

However, since 1940, the gathering power of the Milankovitch forces has apparently overwhelmed humanity's contributions.

CO-OP WAREHOUSE NEEDS INFO

Infinity Foods Warehouse is a Pittsburgh-based, not-for-profit, wholesale food distributor, organized as a worker's co-operative, serving co-ops, food-buying clubs, and non-profit organizations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, and Delaware. We are presently thinking of extending our service to the Maryland/DC area, if there is sufficient consumer demand. Existing co-ops looking for an alternative, non-capitalist supplier as well as groups or individuals who might like to start their own co-op can receive information by contacting Infinity Foods Warehouse, 1008 Washington Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA, 412-363-5247.

The human species, youngling of the biosphere, is the only available natural force capable of intercepting, through its technological skillfulness, a renewed ice age. As an integral part of the biosphere's evolutionary process, it is foolhardy to restrain our species' unique technological gift through fear of disturbing a "natural balance" that is actually always unbalancing itself. The biosphere does not simply cycle, it evolves.

Remedies proposed so far range from speeding up Third World industrialization to orbiting large plastic film reflectors to enhance absorption of solar energy.

"Human CO₂ emission may be a salvation rather than a threat," Kukla said in an interview. "The only problem may be that we do not have enough fossil fuel to go on adding it to the atmosphere forever."

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"HOWDY, AMERGO - REAGAN DOESN'T WANT ME BUTTING INTO AMERICANS' LIVES ANYMORE, SO HE SENT ME DOWN HERE...."

OVERREACTING TO LIBYA

Mansour Farhang & William Dorman

Whether Col. Muammar Kaddafi of Libya has actually dispatched assassination squads to the United States or not, the U.S. media may have, in effect, achieved an important objective for him. By sensationalizing the reports, the media here may be helping Kaddafi manipulate anti-American sentiment in the Arab world.

The present situation recalls the time in late November, 1979, when an official appeal was made by one of the authors to the Ayatollah Khomeini to release the American hostages in Iran. Khomeini replied: "If we release the hostages, the international press will not write about us anymore."

Khomeini knew well that by creating a confrontation with the United States he could effectively suppress the voice of reason and moderation within the Iranian revolution, making it impossible for critics to voice their views without being accused of pro-Americanism. The demonstrations in front of the U.S. embassy in Teheran were designed to produce the kind of sensational media coverage which would further the goals of the fundamentalists in Iran's internal power struggle.

Certainly, a number of observers and commentators have raised questions about the handling of the Libyan affair from the beginning, often wondering aloud about the wisdom of the administration's public reaction. But aside from isolated writers, few journalists have turned their attention to foreign figures who might benefit from the fear of teams of hit men menacing top U.S. officials—not the least of whom is Kaddafi himself.

Yet the presumed Libyan plan to assassinate U.S. leaders must be viewed within the context of the potential for media manipulation to serve Kaddafi's domestic and regional purposes. Certainly, it is quite conceivable that Kaddafi would send "hit squads" to neutralize his opponents anywhere in the world, and it is therefore prudent for security agencies to respond to such threats with the utmost seriousness and professionalism.

However, for the press to publicize and sensationalize such charges neither helps the security concerns of official Washington nor does it blunt the ambitions and expectations of Col. Kaddafi.

The U.S. image among most Arab peoples is as-

sociated with arrogance, cruelty, expansionism, humiliation, defeat, fear and refugees. For almost a decade, Kaddafi has been trying to exploit this image in pursuit of his obsession to become the undisputed leader of the Arab world.

But the governments and political elites in the Middle East no longer take him seriously. He has been too erratic to create any confidence or dialogue with the influential political actors in the region.

Syria and South Yemen are interested mainly in Libya's money, and their partnership with Kaddafi in the rejectionist front against the Camp David accords is far more profitable to them than to Kaddafi.

Kaddafi is the least successful of all Arab leaders in winning the loyalty of any significant political faction among the Lebanese and Palestinians, even though he has been willing to spend money lavishly in their behalf.

It was largely because of his disappointment with the Arab countries that Kaddafi turned his attention to Africa. He sent 5,000 troops to Chad, which only proved to be a disaster to Libya.

Kaddafi's frustrated attempt to develop a cordial relationship with revolutionary Iran is yet another manifestation of his failure to win friends in the Middle East. Since the days of Khomeini's residence in Nauphle-le Chateau, Kaddafi has been trying to extract an invitation from the Ayatollah to pay him a visit. Khomeini has coldly turned him down, demanding that he should first reveal the whereabouts of Imam Mousa Sadr, who was a student and close associate of Khomeini for 20 years, before he could consider the idea of meeting with him. Khomeini is convinced that Kaddafi is responsible for the 1978 disappearance of Imam Mousa

Sadr, whose followers recently hijacked a Libyan airliner in an unsuccessful attempt to force Kaddafi to reveal Sadr's fate.

Thus, Kaddafi's frustrated efforts to influence the region's governments and organized political forces has impelled him to shift the pursuit of his grandiose dream in the direction of appealing to the Arab masses. Yet, even though he spends a vast amount of money on propaganda and intrigues, his efforts to arouse the masses in defiance of their governments have so far been ineffective. The failure of Kaddafi's recent attempt to mobilize Arab mass support for his confrontation with Sudan illustrates this point.

The only way left for Kaddafi to present himself as a regional leader is to maintain a perpetual conflict with the United States. It is in such a confrontation that Kaddafi can manipulate popular rage in the Arab world against the United States. The more international attention that is paid to Kaddafi's propaganda and intrigues, the more ammunition he gains in pursuing his objective.

It is obvious that Kaddafi's real or imagined behavior appeals to the American mass media. But it is not quite so obvious that over-reaction to Kaddafi's calculated or uncalculated schemes might produce the kind of results that Kaddafi has been after for years.

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Mansour Farhang, who formerly taught government at California State University, Sacramento, was revolutionary Iran's ambassador to the U.N. and chief foreign policy advisor to former President Bani Sadr. William Dorman is professor of journalism at California State University, Sacramento.

A Bright Spot in the Yard

JEROME WASHINGTON

Reviewed by Paul Krassner

Norman Mailer and Abbie Hoffman sat watching *Saturday Night Live*. On came a sketch about prisoners who were writing books while still behind bars. Visiting day, they would argue with their literary agents about royalty percentages.

Norman and Abbie were not laughing.

Mailer was distressed about Jack Abbott—the man he was instrumental in getting published a book of his letters from prison, *Belly of the Beast*, then helped to get him out of prison, only to pollute his freedom with a tragic murder.

Hoffman was in Mailer's home only by the grace of a New York State work release program, but prison was where he had to report back to.

"I hate it when I'm there, I hate it when I'm not there, I hate it when I'm fucking, I hate it all the time," said Abbie of prison. "I shouldn't even be there in the first place."

Jerome Washington, the first black Yippie (Jimi Hendrix was the second), should never have been in prison in the first place, either. Perhaps it was the false report on his FBI files—that he was liaison between the Youth International Party and the Black Panthers at the 1968 Democratic convention in Chicago—which was responsible for him being framed on a murder charge a few years later. For a decade now, he has been a prisoner of war.

He founded an award-winning newspaper at Auburn State Prison, got in trouble for criticizing the prison system, and was transferred to Attica as punishment. Remember Attica, that word Al Pacino kept shouting at the cops in *Dog Day Afternoon*?

Washington brought a right-to-write suit, which is still pending. The state offered an out-of-court settlement, but refused his counter-offer, so lawyers are preparing for trial. Meanwhile, he has been transferred from Attica to Stormville.

The Jack Abbott case has made it easy to be cynical about prisoners who write books, but Jerome Washington transcends that cynicism. Behind bars, he has written four plays, two novels and a film script. He has been praised by Ken Kesey, Tom Wicker, Allen Ginsberg.

Alan Sillitoe, author of *The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner*, calls his work "the most moving testament of the modern incarcerated man that I have read from this side of the Iron Curtain."

And now we have a tight little collection of notes and stories from his prison journal—*A Bright Spot in the Yard* (\$4.95, Crossing Press, Trumansburg, New York 14886). Although we can only be ashamed of the system that has tried to dehumanize Jerome Washington, we can also be grateful that it has failed.

In the face of institutionalized sadism by the guards, he has managed to maintain his compassion for their victimization. In a piece about a blues concert in the prison auditorium—where there are "tear gas canisters recessed in the ceiling"—he writes:

"Off to one side, a blue coated guard nods to the rhythm. On the up-beat his eyes meet the guard sergeant's frown. The message is clear: 'You are not supposed to enjoy the blues. You get paid to watch, not be human.' The message is instantaneously received. The guard jerks himself still and looks meaner than ever.

"Long Tongue, the Blues Merchant, wails on. He gets funky. He gets rough. He gets raunchy. His blues are primeval. He takes everybody, except the guards, on a trip. The guards remain trapped behind the prison's walls while, if only for a short time, we are free...."

Washington is even able to have empathy for their sick wit: "So what if this food is unfit for canine consumption?" the Mess Sergeant said. "We ain't feeding

dogs, we is feeding you.' He gloated, then added, 'The SPCA can't squawk about that.'"

His insights extend far beyond the arbitrariness of prison walls: "Only in prisons, police stations and welfare lines do you see bilingual signs and directions posted. Everywhere else, everything is English only. It seems that Americans only recognize Spanish-speaking people when there is a need to control them."

And he knows the varieties of the fist.

On one hand, "When Saladine refused to take Thorazine, the guards said that he was rebelling. When Saladine tightened his fist against the pain of 15 years in prison, the guards said that he had given the Black Power salute...."

On the other hand, "After ten years of jerking off, Willie went home to his wife who had waited with memories of Willie's love. She had stayed in practice, of course, and knew what love making was all about. But Willie, after ten years of non-experience, could only see his wife as a substitute for his fist."

Washington admits, "I envy maggots, crabs and body lice. They have more opportunities to make love than I do."

He captures the pathetic schizophrenia of compulsory masturbation. In *The Woman On My Wall*, he writes a romantically sensuous ode to the magazine centerfold pasted on his cell wall. "Even her toes stir my libido...."



Yet, in a later note, he confesses, "I used to have a large, nude pin-up on my wall. It was there, across from the bed, doing time just as I am. Until I woke from a wet dream and in the half light I thought I had a midget in the cell with me. When fantasies become that real it's time to give them up. The next time I pin up a photograph it will be of something I can use—like a helicopter."

A recent letter I received from Jerome began, "Is it next year yet? Damn, had hoped that I'd wake and this shit would be all over...."

And in his book: "New Year's Eve. A smooth-skinned boy of 21 was gang raped in the bathhouse. The guard on duty puffed an extra long, mentholated and filtered cigarette and took his time responding to the screams that were soon gagged away with a bar of prison soap.... The boy was charged with 'attempting to incite a riot' with his 21-year-old-smooth-skinned ass...."

To blame such a victim is the ultimate trickle-down theory of '80s morality.

"The storeowner's color TV showed green trees and food and luxuries as real, not myths, and that the pain

of living from welfare check to welfare check is not a universal fact. We smashed the store's window. Via the pawnshop, we converted the TV into babyfood, three meals a day, rat traps, clothes and rent. In the process we transformed ourselves from a poverty statistic into a self-help program."

Washington shares with us a satirical perception that has helped him remain sane:

"Each day I feed the birds outside my window. Since I am never sure if the birds that come today are the same that came yesterday, I limit my conversation to a few 'hellos' and a casual 'hi, there.' Extended conversations are impossible when no continuum can be identified. Still, each day the birds come to pimp me for their bread. And each day I pimp them for the companionship. We pimp each other for survival. Isn't that also a law of Nature?"

In his title story, *Bright Spot in the Yard*, he tells of a place in the prison yard where he goes to be free to take journeys of incredible poetic imagery:

"I came to earth in ancient Timbuktu. The tart aroma of fresh camel dung prickled my nostrils as I strolled the baked clay streets to the market square in the shadow of the great Dyinuree Mosque. Sengalese, Bantu and Bambute tradesmen bartered candies and nuts and cheese, spice and dried fruit for salt bricks mined from the pits at Taoudenni. From open-front booths, Songhai merchants sold Arab cloth, Moorish jewelry and belly dancers born at the mouth of the Nile, while derelicts asked alms and floral-tailed peacocks strutted nearby.

"In the dry noon shade of a palm, I sat on a Persian rug, and my feet cooled in the crystal Oasis of Amen-Ra. There I sipped quick-chilled pomegranate juice laced with anisette served by mulatto eunuchs and watched ebony concubines from south of the Sudan parade to the auctioneer's call. That evening, after dining with a nomad prince, I climbed onto a cloud and looking into the coming night sky, I heard the guard sergeant shout: 'Okay, you men. Clear the yard. Get your asses back to your cells....'"

Yet, not every inmate is able to find a bright spot in the yard. In a letter to me, Jerome Washington talks about the Jack Abbott case:

"Abbott is a product of the system. I've seen hundreds like him; all that sets him apart is the fact that his letters were edited into a book which Norman Mailer pushed. When I saw him on TV right after his book came out—he was with Mailer on a talk show—I and other [at Attica] felt that he would blow with the slightest push—and, sad to say, he did. As soon as his manhood (the image) was confronted, he struck out in the only way he knew, the only way life had conditioned him to strike out...."

"What they did to him was like taking a person fresh from the street, throwing him in prison and expecting him to survive. Well, the only rules such a person would know are those of the free world. He'll get killed in here. Conversely, the rules Abbott knows are the ones of prison. Out there, he killed. In here, it's the thing to do. Seems that Abbott knew everything there is to know about the joint, and nothing about life outside. A damn shame...."

"To me, he is just a symbol. I am not at all that concerned with him as a person as what it has done to hurt other writers in prison—the word right now is that these people don't want me to have a creative writing workshop because they fear I'll turn into a Jack Abbott, or I'll turn out a bunch of Jack Abbotts. But that's the way the system is run—on paranoia...."

In a previous limited edition of *Notes From a Prison Journal*, Washington wrote, "Memories become hope. And hope becomes an absolute trap." In the new book, that maxim has been amended: "In prison, memories become hope. And hope becomes an absolute trap. Yet, to do nothing is treacherous."

A Bright Spot in the Yard is something. It articulates the consciousness beyond the myth of the criminal class.

"People who come out of prison can build up the country," wrote Ho Chi Minh. "Misfortune is a test of people's fidelity. Those who protest at injustice are people of true merit. When the prison-doors are opened, the real dragon will fly out."

Jerome Washington is one of those dragons. And his prose is flying out before him. We ought to spread the word.



Here's some surprising news from the affirmative action front. According to Forbes magazine, women make up more than 38 percent of the banking officials and managers at America's biggest one hundred banks. Women accounted for only one banker in seven 11 years ago.

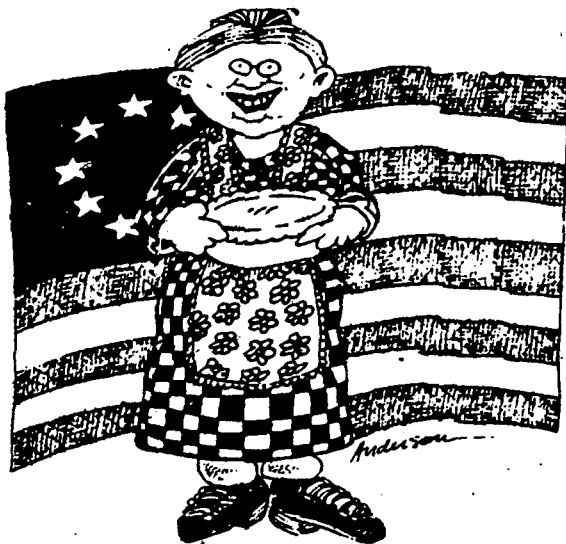
A New York law firm has told Jack Gimbel of Boothbay Harbor, Me., that his general store was doing "irreparable damage" to the Gimbel Brothers department store chain. The lawyers demanded that Jack Gimbel turn over the profits from Jack Gimbel's General Store to the big chain. The matter will apparently be settled in federal court. Gimbel, the one in Boothbay Harbor, says, "They're so damn callous because of their size. They think they can order anybody around."

It seems Americans really don't mind helping the needy unless it's called "welfare." Last summer, a government-sponsored poll showed 1000 people a list of programs and asked which should bear the brunt of state and local budget cuts. Thirty-nine percent selected "public welfare programs." But when the poll was repeated two months later, with the words "aid to the needy" instead, only nine percent said that was where the axe should fall. "It is possible," said the pollsters, "that the public perception of 'needy' is so altruistic, and the term 'public welfare' so negative that each produces an over-reaction."

The state which gave us Spiro Agnew and Marvin Mandel continues to come up with creative approaches to government. A Maryland legislator has suggested that annual lie detector tests be given all 188 members of the state's general assembly. Under the plan put forward by Baltimore County Delegate William Rish, every December 1st the lawmakers would be lined up, strapped to a polygraph and interrogated by members of the opposing party. So far the idea has attracted little support in the assembly. Meanwhile, the State Senate Tax committee has adopted what it calls the Undeleted Expletive Revenue Enhancement Bill, or as it's better known, the Cussin' Tax. Committee members are assessed fines for foul language, with penalties ranging from 25 cents for mild obscenities up to a dollar for the real doozies. the money goes into a party fund for the end of the session.

The International Species Inventory system provides a computer dating service for 150 zoos and wildlife refuges around the world. The system, headquartered at the Minnesota Zoo, keeps tabs, including vital statistics and sexual records, on more than 50,000 animals, and sends out listings twice a year. Research analyst Larry Grahn says the zoos themselves do the actual matchmaking -- a difficult task, even with the help of a computer. For instance, Grahn says, even when a partner is found for a male chimpanzee, the animal must still be "literally taught how to mate" with her.

The Prudential Life Insurance Company in Princeton, New Jersey, is getting ready for summer by dumping ice, snow and slush into an insulated pond nearby. The theory is that the cold water from the pond will cool the building. Although some experts predict the ice will melt long before Labor Day, Prudential engi-



Apple Pie

neers say they're convinced the cooling system will save the company about \$12,000 in air conditioning bills.

Officials of Goodwill Industries of Arkansas say a flood of complaint have forced them to cancel plan to donate a dress to the first lady as a symbol of "quality merchandise and bargain prices" available at Goodwill. If the deal had gone through, Nancy Reagan would have received a three dollar knee-length floral print dress from Goodwill's Little Rock store.

After announcing that it would no longer provided free help for taxpayers, the IRS has relented and made three exceptions: it will continue to aid the blind, the illiterate and members of Congress.

If you've wondered what ever happened to John Reed's friend, Louise Bryant, help is on the way. Berkeley Books has reissued Barbara Gelb's 1973 biography of Bryant and Reed, titled *So Short a Time*. Meanwhile, the New American library is hurrying out a new paperback edition of *Living My Life* by Emma Goldman, friend of Bryant and Reed. Bryant married an American diplomat three years after Reed's death in 1920, but the marriage failed. Bryant later developed drug and alcohol addiction and died of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 49.

It's now a 12-year jail sentence for anyone possessing a coin-operated video game. In the Phillipines. Government newspapers call video game parlors "breeding grounds for petty corruption." In 1974 the government issued a similar ban on pinball machines.

What's your favorite junk food? It seems to depend on where you live. A survey by Restaurants & Institutions magazine indicates that, while McDonalds is the most popular fast food chain nationwide, there are some big regional differences. In the south and west, for example, the Golden Arches are ranked number four. Wendy's reigns supreme in the south, but is not even in the top ten in the Northeast, where Friendly's Ice Cream has scooped the competition. Baskin-Robbins is number one in the west. Among different income groups, Kentucky Fried Chicken scored highest among families earning less than \$15,000 a year. Baskin-Robbins and McDonalds were the top contenders in middle-income groups and those with incomes of \$30,000 tend to prefer Baskin-Robbins and Burger King.

The newest program on Manhattan cable TV is the "Commercial Show" -- a weekly offering of nothing but old TV commercials. Advertisers buy time to lace their new commercials in between the old ones.

It turns out that most of the Army's manual typewriters are made in East Germany. The GSA, which coordinates government procurement, says they are by far the cheapest on the market, and while the disclosure has raised some congressional hackles, the Treasury Department points out it gives the East Germans more dollars to buy American grain.

Rod Carew has purchased ads in a sports hobby magazine offering to sell his autograph for ten bucks a signature. He's also peddling autographed baseballs, and for \$99.50, a personally autographed Rod Carew bat. A letter from a baseball fan, in the same publication shows Carew means business; the fan says he sent Carew three baseball cards to sign, and not only did Carew refuse to do it for free, he kept the cards.



LIFE & RELATED SUBJECTS

One of the most useless classes I ever took in high school, ranking right up there with calculus, was French. I took several years of French, and I learned hundreds of phrases, not one of which I would ever actually want to say to anybody. For example, my French teachers insisted that when I met a French person I should say "Comment allez-vous?". It turns out that this means "How do you go?", which is not the kind of thing you say when you want to strike someone as being intelligent. Your average French person already thinks most Americans are idiots, and you're not going to improve his opinion much if you barge up to him on some Paris street and start spewing high-school-French phrases:

You: Comment allez vous? ("How do you go?")

French Person: Je vais a pied, evidentment. Vous devez avoir les cerveaux d'une truite. ("I go on foot, obviously. You must have the brains of a trout.")

You: Ou est la bibliotheque? ("Where is the library?")

French Person: Partez, s'il vous plait. J'ai un fusil. ("Please go away. I have a gun.")

My wife didn't do any better in high-school French. She learned to say "Je me suis casse la jambe" ("I have broken my leg") and "Elle n'est pas jolie" ("She is not pretty"). What on Earth is she supposed to do with these phrases? I mean, suppose she does go to France and break her leg:

My Wife: Je me suis casse la jambe. ("I have broken my leg.")

French Bystanders: C'est dommage. ("What a pity.")

My Wife: Elle n'est pas jolie. ("She is not pretty.")

French Bystanders: Bien, excusez-nous pour vivre. Vous n'etes pas un grand prix vous-meme. ("Well, excuse us for living. You are no great-prize yourself.")

My wife would never get an ambulance that way. She'd be lucky if the bystanders didn't spit on her.

Despite the fact that the teacher insisted on making me speak like a fool, I stuck with high-school French, because at the time the only alternative was Latin, which is even more worthless. For one thing, everybody who speaks Latin is dead. For another thing, all you ever read in Latin class is Caesar's account of the Gallic wars, in which Caesar drones on and on about tramping around Gaul. These had to be the dullest wars in history, which is why finally the Romans got so bored that they let the empire collapse and quit speaking Latin. In fact, they gave up on spoken language altogether, and today their descendants communicate by means of hand gestures.

When I got to college, I briefly considered taking Chinese or Russian, but I abandoned this notion when I discovered that the Russians and the Chinese use Communist alphabets. I also rejected German, because it is too bulky. For example, the German word for "cat" is "einfuhrungaltfriesischenspraakuntwor-terbuchgegenwart." It can take up to two days to order lunch in German.

The result of all this is that I know very little of any foreign language, and what I

do know is either useless or embarrassing. Most Americans are in the same situation. Fortunately, you don't really need another language, because, as you know if you have ever traveled abroad, virtually all foreign persons speak English. In fact, I sometimes suspect that there are no foreign languages, that foreign persons really speak English all the time and just pretend to speak foreign languages so they can amuse themselves by conning dumb American tourists into saying things like "How do you go?"

So if you plan to travel abroad, you should not waste your time learning some foreign language that could well turn out to be fraudulent. Instead, you should practice pronouncing, in a very loud, clear voice, certain useful English phrases for travelers. Here are the main ones:

— "Do you speak English?"

— "Thank God. Where can I find a bathroom?"

— "Is that one of those bathrooms where you wind up standing on some street corner in a structure that offers no more privacy than a beach umbrella?"

— "Thank God. Will the bathroom have a squat female attendant who will watch my every move lest I leave without giving her a tip, even though the bathroom has obviously not been cleaned once since it was built by Visigoths more than 12,000 years ago?"

— "Thank God. Say, you speak pretty good English, for a foreign person."

These phrases will take care of your basic needs abroad, and the fact that you have taken the time to learn to pronounce them loudly and clearly will leave a lasting impression on your foreign hosts.

Dave Barry

AMERICAN JOURNAL

You know, a lot of people in this country don't like uppity women. Maybe you're one of them. Maybe you've been waiting for an organization to gestate that would articulate what *you* feel about women's liberation. Namely, that it's gone too far, that even Phyllis Schlafly is too busy speaking and lawyering to spend time with her family. Is that what's bothering you, sir or madam?

Then you should know about the newest, nicest anti-women's lib group, Ladies Against Women. Not that they're demanding your attention, or anything. They know their place. The Ladies are merely suggesting that you may want to join their campaign to (in their own words) "nip Womanhood in the bud, and prevent the Feministic blight of bluejeans, flat shoes and female facial nudity from spreading."

Well, OK, you think, I know what they're against, now what are they for? The Ladies—again, in their own words—want to "make America a man again" by getting a good healthy war going somewhere. They'd also be pleased as punch if Congress would amend the U.S. Criminal Code to incorporate a national dress code. And to make sure those long-overdue reforms stick, LAW supports the establishment of HULA—the House committee for the investigation of Un-Ladylike Activities.

A promising beginning, you figure, but what else? The Ladies were too shy to speak up about the rest of their agenda for America, but they did jot down some of their ideas for me. They include:

- "Suffering, not suffrage—out of the voting booths and into the maternity wards."
- "Recriminalize sex—restore virginity as a high school graduation requirement."
- "Fifty-nine cents is too much—it's un-ladylike to accept money for work."
- "Procreation, not recreation—close your eyes and do your duty."



According to LAW's spokesman, Virginia Cholesterol, the group is also vitally concerned about the male gender's distressing habit of self-abuse. Many, many innocent gametes lose their lives that way, she explained, and future taxpayers, voters and draftees are unnecessarily prevented. To counter this wanton disregard for life, Cholesterol and her colleagues in LAW have spawned a sister group called The Voice of the Unconceived.

Cholesterol blushed prettily when I asked her to tell me something about herself ("background" we jour-

**David
Armstrong**

nalists call it), saying only that she is the widow of a wealthy margarine rancher. She got into politics back in 1980 by helping to politely but firmly guide the Reagan for Shah campaign.

After taking their soft-spoken slogans to the Republican and Democratic conventions, the Reagan for Shah Committee joined forces with a number of like-minded groups. Among them were Another Mother for World Domination, the National Association for the Advancement of Rich People and The Moral Monopoly. When the coalition decided that an organization was needed to work specifically on girls' issues, LAW was born, and the pert Cholesterol was chosen to chair it.

While LAW has a core group of only seven or eight girls, their sympathizers are legion, so the group has decided to give in to popular demand and expand. A contingent of LAW members marched in the Pasadena, California, Doo-Dah Parade—an alternative Rose Bowl parade—just before New Year's Day, and were written up in several major daily papers for their trouble. They even snared what Cholesterol describes as "six glorious seconds" on the CBS-TV news.

I can attest to the group's media savvy. Their press releases are sent out on shocking pink paper, adorned with feminine curlies and accompanied by handwritten notes in pink ink. True, this makes it a teensy-bit tough to read the messages, but the medium is the message, and, besides, they're the funniest press releases I get.

Ladies Against Women don't want to be pushy, but they're considering starting a chapter in your town. If the prospect of putting that uppity feminist down the block in her place appeals to you, you may contact LAW (get your husband's permission first, of course, if you're female) directly. They're at: 1600 Woolsey St., Box 7, Berkeley, CA 94703. You may also phone them at: (415) 841-6500, ext. 331. Remember, the girls may be at home ironing or volunteering at a bake sale, so you may have to leave a message.

THE GAZETTE BOOKSHELF

NEWEST LIST

THE ESSENTIAL EARTHMAN: Henry Mitchell on Gardening. This is not just another book on gardening but the thoughts of an enthusiast who comes to the subject with reverence, passion, humor and a sober knowledge of human frailty. The Essential Earthman believes, for example, "a lawn 17 by 20 feet is just fine, if you think a lawnless life is not worth living *** But I suspect many gardeners would do well to think of something besides grass and the little noisy juggernauts you cut with." This is a collection of many of Mitchell's most popular pieces from the Washington Post. \$12.95

CHESAPEAKE: James A. Michener. This is, of course, the book that was the first work of fiction in ten years to make it to the number one spot in the New York Times's best seller list. But its subject matter gives it even greater appeal to those in the Washington area. A fine novel and a way to learn more about our bay. \$3.95

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OUR BOOKSHELF

BARGAINS!

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CHUCK STONE

Once again, America has arrogated unto itself the arrogant propping up of another corrupt dictatorship, so inept it can neither govern nor fight.

In Korea, it cost the United States \$67 billion, 54,246 dead Americans and 103,284 wounded Americans to preserve a kind of Mason-Dixon line between North and South Korea.

Having learned nothing from that military exercise in political futility, the U.S. went to the Southeast Asian mat again with the Communists.

Twelve years of fighting, \$118 billion, 56,968 dead Americans (including four Kent State College students) and 2 million dead Indochinese were wasted to preserve a Mason-Dixon line in Vietnam.

In El Salvador, there are no geographical lines.

Only one long, winding road strewn with thousands of massacred women, babies and men.

The deaths are escalating, courtesy of the Reagan-Haig war machine.

Last year, the number of murdered Salvadorans ranged from the Human Rights Commission of El Salvador's estimate of 16,276 to the Roman Catholic Church legal office's estimate of 13,353.

Either number doesn't distress Americans.

But it means that one out of every 200 Salvadorans will die a violent death.

On a comparable scale, 675,000 Americans would be killed this year.

Only one word describes that kind of systematic carnage.

Genocide.

And America's hands are stained with the blood from this murderous obscenity.

The argument of Assistant Secretary of State Thomas O. Enders that "the decisive battle for Central America is under way in El Salvador" is more tantalizing as a Halloween story than as foreign policy.

In testimony before a House subcommittee, Enders asked, "If, after Nicaragua, El Salvador is captured by a violent minority, who in Central America would not live in fear?"

Mexico, which is closer in distance and culture to El Salvador, doesn't seem to be living in Enders' Chicken Little fear.

In fact, Mexico recognizes the political arm of the guerrillas, the Democratic Revolutionary Front.

Second, if we assume the remaining four Central American countries—Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and Belize—were the next dominoes for a violent minority, would the Reagan-Haig duo dispatch to each country another \$255 million in economic and military aid?

Third, this perilous rebirth of U.S. jingoism is alienating European allies.

Angrily charged Denmark's prime minister, Anker Jorgensen, "The American involvement in El Salvador is deadly dangerous, senseless, unnecessary, wrong, and it reduces American chances for any cooperation with Europe."

More ominous than America's unwarranted role in El Salvador are some of the artillery shell bursts from that smoldering volcano who runs the State Department.

When senators worried the other day that the next step in El Salvador might push the U.S. into using American troops, the White House denied any such plans.

"We have not ruled anything out," contradicted Der Feld Marschall.

Herr Haig just can't seem to keep his hand away from that button.

One unanticipated fallout of the Reagan-Haig war machine's aid to El Salvador is the inadvertent bolstering of the right wing.

One of its most vicious leaders, Roberto D'Aubuisson, has been accused of playing a major role in political assassinations. One included San Salvador Archbishop Oscar Romero in 1980.

Some observers believe the charismatic D'Aubuisson, who enjoys threatening American diplomats, could emerge as a pivotal political force in the March 28 constituents assembly elections.

Still caught in the crossfire between deadly rightist forces and determined leftist guerrillas are innocent victims who are being slaughtered faster than sheep in a stockyard.

To the ruling right-wing Christian Democrats and army coalition, genocide is national policy.

"Remember Mao's dictum," sneer rightwing military officers, "that 'guerrillas are fish that swim in friendly waters.' We have to empty the waters."

Mao, who pulled off a successful revolution, also prophesied: "A revolution does not march a straight line. It wanders where it can, retreats before superior forces, advances wherever it has room, attacks whenever the enemy retreats or bluffs and above all, is possessed of enormous patience."

El Salvador guerrillas have enormous patience.

PHILA DAILY NEWS

On El Salvador

CHARLES MCDOWELL

ALEXANDRIA—"Hold onto your hat," said my neighbor, Mr. Bumbleton, "President Reagan is going to break up Washington and give the pieces to the states."

"Not immediately," I said. "There has to be a lot of negotiating with governors and hassling with Congress."

"Well, I hope Virginia doesn't hang back. I think we should put in our bid for the Redskins right now," Mr. Bumbleton said.

"The Redskins?"

"Sure. We need a major football team. And the Redskins need to be close to the people. Let's go for 'em."

"Mr. Bumbleton, I'm afraid you misunderstand. . . ."

"There you go, looking for problems. Listen, the Redskins will be a lot more fun than food stamps."

"But, Mr. Bumbleton. . . ."

"And less expensive. I'll tell you those food stamps are going to cost a mint of money over the years, especially if unemployment and this boring recession are going to be a regular part of supply-side economics. The Redskins will lift our spirits at the state level."

"Mr. Bumbleton, the president proposes to shift federal programs—you know, governmental activities—to the states. The Redskins don't actually qualify to be turned over to the states."

"Then let's go for a piece of the Post Office. What do you think of that for an idea?"

"You better be careful or Mr. Reagan will give it to us. Why would Virginia or anybody else want any part of the Post Office?"

"For one thing, we could probably run it better than it's being run now," Mr. Bumbleton said.

"I'll let that pass," I said.

"For another thing, the Post Office wouldn't have to cost the taxpayers a lot of money. It's self-supporting. You just keep raising the postage rates. But those welfare programs and grants and subsidies can run into real money. And you have to supervise 'em very closely

so there's no discrimination and everybody's constitutional rights get protected, and so giving out the benefits is even-handed and all that."

"Yes, Mr. Bumbleton that's why most of the programs were federalized in the first place, to make them fair across the whole country."

"Let's don't say states can't be as fair as the federal government," Mr. Bumbleton said. "Of course, some have more money to be fair with than others. And states may vary a little in how they read the Constitution. But we'll just have to see how that works out. Meanwhile, I think Virginia ought to get something good from Washington while we are taking on all these problems."

"Something good like what?"

"Like, for instance, one of the museums of the Smithsonian Institution."

"Mr. Bumbleton, the president is talking about 40 or so specific programs that he thinks could be administered more efficiently at the state level. The Smithsonian is not among them," I said.

"But his aides are saying everything is negotiable. Let's negotiate. If we are willing to take a whole basket of programs with all sorts of forms to fill out and lawyers and politicians to fiddle with and money to raise and all that, than we ought to get something nice to make the package more attractive. Those feds will unload nothing but problems on you if you let 'em"

"So you want the president to throw in a Smithsonian museum?"

"It's only fair. The Museum of Natural History would be my choice. We could spread it around, get it really close to the people—the elephant in Richmond, the whale in Norfolk, that marvelous American Indian exhibit in Roanoke and so on," Mr. Bumbleton said.

"You're going to run into some controversy on that, Mr. Bumbleton."

"Of course. Surely you don't think Washington is going to slough off chunks of the federal government to the states without controversy. We should welcome it, and we should stand up for ourselves. For example, the president is trying to give us food stamps and aid to families with dependent children, and he's offering to take Medicaid in return. We can get a better deal," he said.

"How?" I asked.

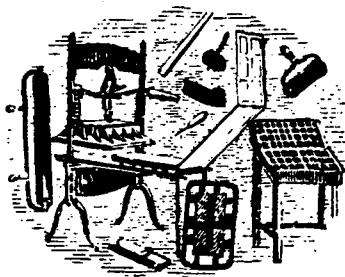
"Make a counteroffer," Mr. Bumbleton said. "Demand that he throw in the Coast Guard. He won't go for that, I suspect, but we might get a couple of national parks out of it, or the Botanic Garden or something. I, for one, am tired of sending my tax dollars to Washington and getting back a lot of problems—and nothing that's any fun to run."

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Getting something good from the feds

THE PRESS

Bob Alperin



If explaining the significance of technical information and relating it to industry safety problems are grading criteria, *The Washington Post's* response to the Ginna nuclear plant accident scored below those of several papers whose stories reflected better background knowledge and a wider range of sources.

The first paragraphs of the first story brought the *Post's* initial problems. It reported that the ruptured pipe created a "nuclear 'emergency'," later downgraded to an "alert." The *New York Daily News* noted, the four accident classifications from most to least serious: general emergency, site emergency, alert, and unusual event. Ginna was a "site emergency."

Unreported in the *Post* was the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's regional administrator's view that the seriousness of the accident should not be underestimated (*New York Times*), or the emergency preparedness coordinator's desire to "look at . . . its generic implications"—the NRC saw the event as significant for pressurized water reactors everywhere (*Baltimore Sun*).

A *Post* editorial said Ginna "merits less attention than it received." The day before, Richard Udell of the Critical Mass Energy Project had a *Times* op-ed piece reminding us of past warnings on the corrosion problem from the Atomic Energy Commission and the American Physical Society (it could lead to "essentially uncoolable conditions").

The *Post* noted that over 12 years more than 100 of 3,000 pipes in each of two loops had been plugged because of cracking or thinning. An NRC official said that the hot uranium core was never threatened with a loss of cooling water. It all sounded routine and reassuring. The *Sun* reported the NRC belief that so

many leaks had been plugged that there would not be enough cooling capacity if more were lost. A Rochester Gas representative revealed that equipment damage left them with but half of their cooling capacity. The *Times*, *Sun*, *Boston Globe* and *Miami Herald* provided diagrams to illustrate their stories.

On the story's first day, the *Daily News* reported on a draft NRC report made available by Critical Mass. The draft concluded that changes in reactor design or materials could not prevent rust and corrosion. A member of the tube rust task force told the *News* that designers had not expected the tubes to be so sensitive to chemical changes at high temperatures. Westinghouse claimed they'd last the 30-40 years of the reactors lifetime. A Florida utility is suing for \$452 million in repair cost.

An excellent article by *Miami Herald* science writer Mike Toner indicated that the NRC's main concern wasn't the relatively little radiation emitted but whether "degraded tubes" could "maintain their integrity with adequate safety margins" during regular and accident conditions. A large rupture "could impair the flow of emergency core cooling water" to the reactor core. As Udell noted, this could "precipitate a meltdown."

Unlike the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Post* never reported the NRC's 12 millirems per hour on-site radiation measurement, nor the discrepancy between NRC readings and Rochester Gas and Electric's much lower readings. (Their on-site high was three). A standard x-ray is 20-30. Too, the *Post* ignored communications problems between the utility and the NRC and media, and within the NRC.

The *Globe* and *Sun* reported an aspect of the nuclear story usually ignored: dangers to the plant workers—five had been slightly contaminated. (When 23,000 gallons of "mildly radioactive" water spilled at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station at least 16 workers had to be decontaminated. The story drew little attention beyond the Atlantic City *Press's* regional coverage.)

The *Post* noted a Vermont plant was closed to repair a radioactive steam leak. If you read the *Times* two days later, you know it reopened. The *Boston Globe*, usually a diligent follower of nuclear matters, picked up the suit seeking to keep shipments of high-level radioactive nuclear waste from New York City. The *Post* ignored that as it did the largest fine ever proposed by the NRC: \$550,000. A Boston Edison plant failed for two and a half years to meet standards for equipment and procedures designed to remove explosive hydrogen gas from the reactor building during an accident. It operated three days with no backup system to keep radioactive materials inside if there were an emergency. The *Sun* had the story.

"Dozier Portrays Abductors As Amateurs" said the *Post* headline. The only Dozier quote evaluating their skills: "smart, well-organized criminals." Dozier quotes were few. About half the article was the author's argument that the Red Brigades' skill has declined. The story was triggered by the general's first post-captivity press conference. The *Times* presented his description of his experience.

Post coverage of the by-elections in which French conservatives took four seats from the Socialists consisted almost entirely of quotes from conservatives. No non-conservative politician was cited. But the political lesson could have been that the Socialists needed Communists support. A *Boston Globe* analysis observed that

the Communists ran no candidates nor organized their members to work for Socialists. Their paper played the election as a minor story, and voter turnout was low in Communist-run municipalities.

Shortly before the *Philadelphia Bulletin* folded, the *Miami Herald* did an informative piece on it and a few other papers in trouble. The *Bulletin's* editor described reporting on his paper's problems as often inaccurate and sloppy. The exception: *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Applauding Andrei Sakharov's success in obtaining a Soviet exit visa for his daughter-in-law, the *Manchester Guardian* reminded readers of other families still separated: thousands of British citizens of Asian origins are apart from spouses, families, and fiancées who are denied entrance by the British government.

Karen De Young's story on a land reform report by the main Salvadorean peasant organization reminds us of the much improved *Post* coverage there. (The report said failure was "an immediate and imminent danger." The State Department dismissed it.) But coverage gaps remain. When five guerrilla groups wrote President Reagan asking him to accept a negotiated solution, the *Post*, but not the *Times*, ignored it.

The *Post* had three brief, page 24 paragraphs on the junta's "rightward reshuffling" of the Electoral Com-

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According to the U.S. Justice Department, on any given day in 1978, nearly 160,000 Americans were housed in more than 3,500 adult jails in the country. In the recently released study, *Profile of Jail Inmates, Socio-demographic Findings from the 1978 Survey of Inmates of Local Jails*, the Bureau of Justice Statistics revealed that: average annual income for jailed prisoners prior to detention was \$3,700 and—that a disproportionate number were unemployed; 40% had taken some drugs on a daily basis—and one-fourth of those sentenced to county jail had been drinking heavily before committing their offenses; blacks comprise 40% of the male population in jail and 50% of the female population, and Hispanics are represented in jail twice as often as they appear in the general population; 70% of the people locked up in jail are under 30 years old, as compared to 39% of the general population in that age group; 30% are accused of or sentenced for violent crimes, 70% for property offenses, drug busts, or threats to public order; more than 40% are awaiting trial.

This last statistic has generated the most attention. Our rate of pre-trial detention, like our rate of imprisonment, is the highest in the Western world. It is twice as high as Canada's and three times Great Britain's. It means that there are, today, more than 64,000 people, accused of crime but presumed innocent, waiting in iron-barred cages.

—Jericho

mission. American media generally ignore right-wing foes of Duarte. The *Times* (London) reported that last fall, during Duarte's visit to Washington, San Salvador's two main papers front-paged preparations for a high right-wing anti-Duarte rally but gave only "scant attention" to Durante and his meeting with Reagan. The London *Observer* claimed politicians from the moderate center leftward fear to stand in the coming election. (The *Post's* early attention to D'Aubuisson's rightist party may augur well for its election coverage.)

Some questions may help evaluate election coverage: what range of views do the candidates represent? Who administers the election, and how do their rules and conduct effect the outcome? How free are observers to monitor events during the campaign and voting? It is possible that the election the U.S. wants so much could return a government opposed to any reforms, thus

undercutting much of the stated U.S. basis of support for the junta.

With so much interests as to whether or not El Salvador has made human rights progress (as Reagan certified), the media seemed to ignore the Salvadorean Church's legal aid department's report that November's 820 political murders were nearly twice October's toll. (It blames most killings on rightist hit squads.) The *Post* has been particularly reticent to use Church experienced in El Salvador as sources.

When Egypt's President Mubarak invited Soviet industrial experts to return, the *Post* gave it a few brief page 17 paragraphs. Egyptian diplomatic sources told the *Los Angeles Times* that a Soviet-Egyptian trade pact was expected soon.

When the US. deported a Cuban to Cuba for the first time since Castro took power, it wasn't news at the *Post*. The *Post* reported a Miami demonstration against the stowaway's deportation, but didn't say where he was sent.

Sun headline: "Talk to Palestinians, Mubarak Urges..." *Times* headline: "Mubarak, Meeting with Reagan, Asks Palestinian 'National Entity'." *Post*: "Mubarak Dims Hope on Mideast." The story was by a national staffer, not the *Post* foreign service.

Times front page: "Brezhnev Offers Deep Arms Cut in Europe by '90." Its Moscow correspondent provided details. A *Post* page 13 headline "Brezhnev Scorns Linkage, Says U.S. slows arms talks." The medium-size Reuters dispatch mentioned the proposal in paragraph seven. The *Post* had a feature story by its Moscow correspondent taking over three times the space of their Brezhnev item: "Soviets battle craze for U.S. jeans."

Times page one: a thorough account of the France-Algeria gas deal and its significance. The *Post* used a *Manchester Guardian* account which noted this was the first large deal between a developing nation and a western industrial one based on the principles of the North-South dialogue. It was page 20. Below it a story of about equal length reported that a plane hijacker had come on the Mariel boatlift.

"... The federal government has an obligation to enforce the constitutional rights of even the least... among us... if those rights are being denied, and to do so at the point of a bayonet if necessary." Thus spoke Ronald Reagan at a press conference at which his civil rights views were a big issue. His words seem to have passed unreported.

Reagan told of a "lengthy communication" from the Pope who "approves what we've done so far" on Poland. The *Post* noted the President's remarks, then two days later briefly reported a Vatican statement that the Pope hadn't meant to be political or express approval for any specific act. Reagan stood by his claim. Earlier, CBS and the *Boston Globe* reported the same Vatican statement's most significant points. The *Globe's* AP story noted the pontiff appreciated "all the efforts designed to assure concrete assistance, especially humanitarian food aid." Hardly an endorsement of cutting food credits. Another brief *Post* story on the Vatican statement still missed the point.

One sentence saying the Civil Rights Commission declared there was legal basis to deny discriminatory schools tax exemption was the *Post's* coverage of the CRC's reply to Reagan. Quite a contrast to the 16 column inches on the same page chiding Reagan on his contributions to charity. The Commission's views were in a page-and-a-half statement and a five page "Fact Sheet" stating the legal argument. Working against the same publishing deadline, the *Sun* had a meaty account of the Commission's points. Having flubbed the substance of the issues legal aspects, the *Post* alertly reported how the administration timed its initial news release on restoring the tax exemptions so that only its side would be on the first evening news and wire service accounts.

Admiral Rickover's warning that the human race would probably blow itself up in a nuclear war made the *Post's* front page. But the paper ignored significant parts of his farewell testimony. The *New York Times* ignored what the *Post* featured but provided a much deserving of follow-up. Rickover wanted to ban nuclear weapons and atomic reactors because of radioactivity's inherent danger to nature. He said Stockman ignored proposals to cut Pentagon waste and inefficiency, that Justice didn't act on cases of inflated and false claims by defense contract fraud and waste.

Rickover said the corporate ability to dispense money often gave them more "power to influence society" than government officials, but without having responsibility and without "being subject to public scrutiny."

India's arrest of over 6,000 union activists and opposition politicians to stop a planned nationwide strike rated four sentences on the *Post's* page 20. "Bullets" Lucas Admits His Problems Are Drug-Related" was page one that day and consumed 71 column inches of the "A" section.

Initial *Post* reporting of the Air Florida crash used

NOTES FROM THE REAL WORLD

The Selective Service system says that barely half of California's 18-year-old men registered for the draft last year, a record described by the state draft chief as "horrible." Other states with low registration include Hawaii, Massachusetts and DC -- all with less than 60 percent registration. South Dakota, on the other hand, recorded a 100 percent registration, and the turnout exceeded 90 percent in Oklahoma, West Virginia and Idaho.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is pushing the idea that the US could fully recover from an all-out nuclear war within two to five years. William Chipman, head of the agency's civil defense division, says, "People would be miserable, but they would in all probability rise to the occasion and restore some kind of a country." In a series of commentaries prepared for publication in local newspapers, the FEMA offers handy hints for turning a rec room into a fallout shelter. The "Pre-planned Basement Snack Bar/Shelter" can function as an entertainment room before, and, presumably, after the attack.

A new study says that Candian women have been successfully combining a career and family for a century. A study of census figures since 1880 shows Canadian women have typically waited longer than Americans to have children and space their children much closer together. That shorter childbearing period, the researchers say, has allowed "Candian women to select a range of roles" other than wife and mother. What's more, in the 90 years studied, Canadian marriages lasted longer than American ones.

While the experts are discounting allegations the Russians are behind this winter's record cold temperatures, there is some concern that Soviet plans to alter the course of two Siberian rivers could have a major effect on the earth's climate. Faced with a critical water shortage in many agricultural and industrial regions, the Soviets are considering an ambitious plan to reroute two rivers, the Ob and the Yenesi, each as long as the Mississippi. According to Phillip Micklin, a geographer at Western Michigan University, the long-term effects could be devastating since both rivers now flow into the Arctic Ocean. Without their warming influence the polar ice cap could grow bringing colder weather to the entire Northern Hemisphere. The Russians are aware of the possible consequences, he says, "but it may be almost impossible for them to resist the tremendous political and economic advantages of getting more water to the south."

Despite his much-heralded support of the "Sagebrush Rebellion" in the western states, it turns out Interior Secretary James Watt isn't too popular among westerners. A survey by Arizona's Behavior Research Center shows 56 percent of those living in the Rocky Mountain states give the Interior Secretary a negative rating, with anti-Watt sentiment running highest in Montana, Nevada and his home state of Colorado. Even those who say they like Watt claim he's placing too much emphasis on the economic development of natural resources, and only 28 percent of the westerners surveyed favored relaxing environmental stands.

The Behavioral Research Center, which conducted the survey, said it's still too early to determine whether Watt's lack of popularity is hurting President Reagan. But the survey did show that Watt's critics included 37 percent of those who called themselves strong Reagan supporters and 74 percent of those who described themselves as favorable or qualified supporters of the President.

42 staff writers. Aside from the start of the Metro crash story on page one, the crash was the only story on six of the first eight news pages. The next day, with a smaller, 16 page "A" section, the news balance was worst. The air crash was about 75% of page one, half of the federal report's news space, and the only news on six other pages. Ads claimed two full pages and half of another.

* * *

Perhaps the apotheosis of *Post* sensationalism came when page one stories had these space allocations (in column inches): rape suspects die in crash 36, Air Florida tapes 18, RFK and JFK tapes 16, U.S. offers Soviet missile pact 13.5, Soviet diplomat expelled 12, Nicaraguan-Indian conflict and Senate curbs courts on busing 8 each.

Air Florida was the sole story on three pages and shared a fourth with the rape suspect crash saga. (Why the police hadn't previously publicized the criminal's m.o. and advised women what to do if their car appeared to be followed was a story deserving attention.) The JFK tape story, including logs, commanded two full pages and shared another's news space with an LBJ tape story.

That same day the *Sun* ran at some length three wire service stories wholly ignored at the *Post*. The AP reported on Reagan's plan to downgrade the Department of Education, having obtained the proposal and related documents. The AP told about Argentina's alleged paramilitary role in Central America. There was another story on interviews with two Nicaraguan officials. Foreign Minister D'Escoto said his country proposed joint Honduran-Nicaraguan patrols to stop any arms flow by that route to El Salvador, but the U.S. wouldn't help obtain Honduran co-operation.

He claims the US knows Nicaragua isn't giving such aid, but uses the charge to justify intervening in El Salvador. (Interviewed on MacNeil-Lehrer, D'Escoto said the US asserts it has satellite and other data showing arms flow from Nicaragua through Honduras to El Salvador, but it can't share such sensitive information with Nicaragua because relations between the countries aren't close enough.)

Perhaps a letter to the *Post* best illustrated how sensationalist zeal can overcome judgment. The writer had the same last name as an Air Florida passenger. Less than 24 hours after the crash a *Post* reporter called to ask if the writer were related to the victim: the reporter was "systematically going through the telephone directory looking for a story."

* * *

A South African commission on the press submitted a 1,367 page report and draft legislation requiring the registration of all white journalists with a licensing body

(blacks can't join). The *New York Times* and *Philadelphia Inquirer* were among papers running the story. The *Post* wasn't.

Much of the report discussed not the media, but the "onslaught" against South Africa, a "peacefully developing internal community." The Soviet Union seeks "to generate a white-black conflict" and wages a disinformation campaign for "the political and moral subversion of the white man."

The draft code demanded "due care and responsibility" in writing about racial and ethnic things or anything that "may detrimentally effect" the nation's security or international position. Journalists must distinguish matters suitable for partisan discussion from those at "the level of statecraft and therefore of national importance." Journalistic practices designed for a "homogeneous democratic country" had to be modified where there was a first- and third- world population mix. Reporting could have "much greater impact upon the often unsophisticated, half-illiterate mind."

The report provided a positive example of good journalism: *The Citizen*, which was founded by secret government funding. A return to covert information activities was deemed desirable and recommended.

ARTHUR HOPPE

"At last President Reagan is going after the real enemies of our way of life," writes my friend Rachel Marshall. "You remember the woman who used to drive up to the Safeway in her Cadillac and buy T-bone steaks with her food stamps. She always stood just in front of a Republican."

"Then there was the couple who had ten children just so they could add to the AFDC payments and live in luxury on \$432 a month. Or the Princeton graduate who got a CETA job because his uncle was the mayor."

"And now we have the woman in Westchester who makes \$75,000 a year (the President is quoted as saying) and her kid gets a free lunch at school."

Mrs. Marshall is absolutely right. I have managed to track down these infamous Americans and, believe you me, they know the game is up. Oh, what a change it's going to make in our way of life.

The woman in the Cadillac is, of course, Mrs. Carstairs Thorne III, widow of the magnesium magnate. Interviewed in the music room of her Beverly Hills mansion, Mrs. Thorne dourly admitted the President's \$2.4 billion cut in food stamps would cost her an extra \$2.56 a week for T-bone steaks.

"But I don't do it just for the money," she said, scowling. "I do it because I love to soak the middle class." She smiled evilly. "So now I've instructed my investment portfolio manager to triple the racquetball club fees at all the Golden Acres Swinging Single complexes my husband left me."

Harder hit were George Penemunde, his wife, Alicia, and their ten children. "Thanks to Reagan slashing \$1.2 billion from Aid to Families with Dependent Children we won't be able to take the kids to Disneyland for a week this year," said Penemunde, as he grimly paced the living room of the family's eight-room condominium overlooking New York's Central Park.

"Worse yet, I'm going to have to go back to work as a management consultant and Alicia will be forced to resume practicing neurosurgery. She hates being a neurosurgeon."

His wife nodded glumly. "Nothing beats being a welfare mother," she said.

In a similar fix is Peabody Williams, Jr., Princeton '78, who has "really enjoyed" being a cafeteria attendant at the Roanoke, Iowa, city hall—a CETA job his uncle, Mayor Bob Herchaks, secured for him as a graduation present. Unfortunately, this is one of the CETA jobs the President is abolishing.

"I guess it means I won't be able to play the croquet circuit at the lake this summer," said Williams, star-

ing moodily down at his Sperry Topsiders. "Dad wants me to come to work for the Peabody Williams Corp. as a commodity futures trader. But, frankly, pork bellies make me sick."

One of the three million children who are being forced out of the school lunch program by the President's budget cuts is freckle-faced Petey Peterson, a sixth-grader at Westchester's Millard Fillmore Elementary School where lunches which were formerly free now cost 40 cents.

"Forty cents doesn't sound like much, but that's \$2 a week," says his mother, Harriet N. Peterson, a former \$75,000-a-year network executive who commuted daily to Manhattan. "I had no choice but to quit my job so that I could stay home and make Peter watercress sandwiches."

Unhappily, it turned out Petey didn't like watercress. "I say it's spinach," he commented traditionally on taking his first bite, "and I say the hell with it."

But now, thanks to our crusading President, all these chiselers have been, or will soon be, removed from the American scene. And, as I said, we are in for a radical change in our way of life:

What on earth are Republicans going to talk about at cocktail parties?

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Action Notes

Despite federal policies which discourage energy conservation and renewable energy sources, grassroots citizen action can move the nation toward a solar future. That is the view of Environmental Action Foundation's new book, *Power & Light: Political Strategies for the Solar Transition*, published by The Pilgrim Press of New York.

Unlike most other recent books about solar energy and conservation, *Power & Light* focuses on the political means for alleviating our energy problems.

Power & Light can be ordered for \$6.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling from: Environmental Action Foundation, 724 Dupont Circle Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20036 (quantity prices available on request). *Power & Light* is also available in bookstores, distributed by The Pilgrim Press, New York.

* * *

Input is requested from the public for listings of periodicals to be included in a directory of United States progressive periodicals and one for Southern progressive periodicals.

Progressive Education chairperson Craig Canan asks people to "just take a minute to mail the names and addresses of any national or southern periodicals which could be listed in the upcoming new editions of these directories."

"We are depending on the progressive public and organizations to insure that the upcoming edition is the most comprehensive periodicals listing published to date," Canan emphasizes. "It is being published to fill a need for greater public awareness of the existence and availability of social justice periodicals in this country."

In all, over 300 social change periodicals will be listed in the two directories. The listings will include periodicals concerning peace, labor, Black, religious, environmental and many more progressive topics.

Suggestions for listings should be sent to Progressive Education, P.O. Box 120574, Nashville, TN. 37212 as soon as possible. The directories may also be ordered through Progressive Education.

* * *

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* * *

Most people know that smoking, obesity, high blood pressure, cholesterol and lack of exercise are associated with an increased risk of heart disease and stroke.

But there is another risk factor for heart disease that appears to be just as important—lack of friends and close family ties. Unfortunately, because of the way doctors normally are trained, few have incorporated this knowledge into their recommendations to those with heart disease.

With startling consistency, several recent studies have shown that social isolation increases risk of death from heart disease, stroke and cancer, the nation's three top killers. The leading study in this area is a 1979 report that measured the "social support networks" of 4,725 San Francisco Bay area residents, and their mortality rate over a nine-year period. The researchers, Dr. Leonard Syme, of the University of California Public Health School in Berkeley, and Dr. Lisa Berkman, of the Institution for Social and Policy Studies at Yale, found that as social ties increased, the death rate decreased. The study measured social ties to spouses, family, friends, religious groups and other groups.

Married people lived longer than the unmarried. People who saw many friends and relatives frequently showed a lower death rate than those who had fewer friends and relatives, and visited them less frequently. Members of religious groups also lived longer than nonmembers, and the same was true for members of other groups compared to nonmembers.

Socially isolated women in their 30s and 40s appeared to face the highest risk; they were more than four times as likely to die in that age bracket than their peers who had strong social support networks. Socially isolated men in their 60s came out the best among the less-connected groups, but they were still almost twice as likely to die as their counterparts with more family and friends.

Subsequent findings have corroborated the Syme-Berkman results. In a recent study of more than 2,700



BODY BEAT

Tom Ferguson, M.D.

residents of Tecumseh, Michigan, scheduled for summer publication in the prestigious American Journal of Epidemiology, researcher James House and his co-workers found that people with "lower levels of social activity have a greater mortality rate."

The original study in this area was conducted by Syme and other researchers in 1964. They discovered that Japanese immigrants to the United States had a heart disease rate five times higher than a comparable group in Japan. They also found that a small subgroup of Japanese immigrants, who continued to speak Japanese and generally continued to live within a distinctly Japanese culture, had the same low rate of heart disease as native Japanese.

The researchers concluded that membership in a

stable social network could provide a buffering effect against heart disease for people who experience rapid social change.

This research may help explain why the American health care system has not had great success in preventing the major diseases of our era: heart disease, stroke and cancer. Syme said, "Few would argue with the proposition that 'People need people.' But our current approach to medical care, with its tendency to look at illness at the tissue and organ level, has excluded the social support factor from its methods of prevention and treatment."

Doctors, moreover, are trained to make quantitative descriptions: so many pills, so many times a day. To the extent that they make preventive health recommendations, these also tend to be quantitative: so many minutes of exercise, so many times per week. Doctors trained to view treatment in quantitative terms often find it extremely difficult to offer qualitative lifestyle recommendations like "make more friends."

It remains unclear exactly how strong social ties work to protect people from disease, but Syme and Berkman speculate that:

- Social isolates may be more likely to adopt self-destructive health practices;
- Social isolation may lead to depression, which may, in turn, prompt accidents, serious illness, or even suicide;
- The absence of social networks may produce physiological changes that increase general susceptibility to disease, whereas social support systems may actually increase the body's defense against disease.

But experts also warn that for many people, taking steps to improve social support networks is no simple matter. "I'm a bit uncomfortable giving people the idea that it's necessarily within everyone's ability to go out and create vast new social support systems for themselves," Berkman cautioned readers of *Medical Self-Care* magazine. For some people, there may be strong social, and even physical constraints, against doing so."

Dr. Mark Pilisuk, of the Department of Applied Behavioral Sciences at the University of California at Davis, added, "For many of the permanent poor, for some of the elderly, for some disabled person and for many minority individuals, the routine affronts from a noxious environment go beyond the buffering protection that a group of close family and friends might offer."

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A Stanford University professor says up to a quarter of America's drinking water is threatened by contamination from toxic chemicals. Civil engineer Perry McCarty says virtually all the nation's underground water could be tainted by industrial chemicals seeping into the ground from waste disposal dumps, septic tanks and accidental chemical spills. Scientists have been aware of the danger for years, McCarty says, but until recently they assumed those chemicals decomposed in the soil before reaching the underground water tables. Now they're finding that isn't the case, and because of the expense of locating and testing water supplies, McCarty says, none of the nation's groundwater "can be guaranteed safe."

The problem is greatest in California and New Jersey. One New Jersey township, for example, was forced to close some of its drinking wells, after studies showed that industrial chemicals had made the town's drinking water dirtier than its untreated municipal waste water. Ultimately, McCarty says, the problem may affect 20 of America's largest cities, and may have spread so far it will never be solved. "We are not going to be able to have pristine water," McCarty says. "What we must aim for is water that is safe."

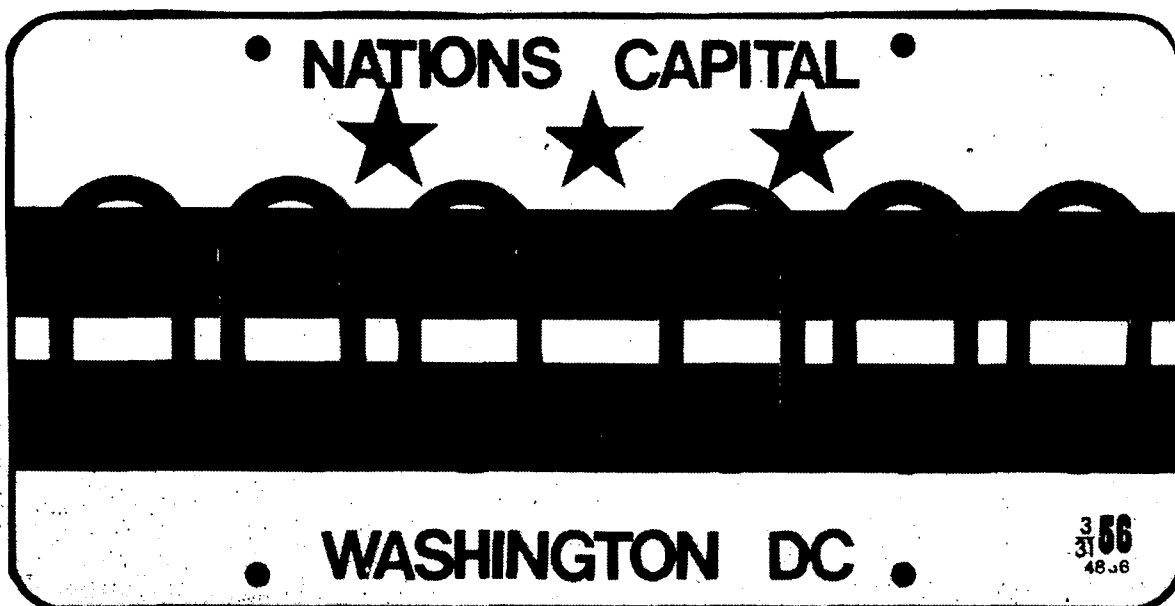
The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is raising its optimal weight for all sizes and age groups. When the new charts are published later this year, they'll add an average of ten to fifteen pounds to the acceptable weight for men, five to seven pounds for women under 25 and less than five pounds for women over 25. The company says the change is based on new studies showing that slightly overweight people are just as healthy as their thinner counterparts, even though more extreme obesity is still associated with heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes.

A LICENSE TO FILL. . .

Shown here is the city's proposed new license plate. The plate was picked after a contest and the choice was, predictably, pleasant but totally non-controversial. Not all the submissions, however, were as cautious. Jim Leggieri of Landover Hills suggested the slogan "Freedom to Choose." Luis Rumbaut suggested, "As All American as Baseball -- but not home run." Rumbaut had two other offerings. One had the numbers and the slogan "Last Colony" displayed behind prison bars. But my favorite showed an apartment building on one side with the eminently suitable city slogan: "Luxury condominiums available. Sauna, swimming pool. From the low 200s." He really caught the flavor of the city.

We also liked the Virginia high school student who created a mythic character, "Captain Columbia," and the competitors who seemed to drift off into heavy philosophy. Among the slogans suggested were "Privileges Improve the quality of Life;" "There is a lesson here someplace;" "Our lives are going by too fast;" and the almost mystical "Authority on love, finances and personal problems."

There was a contestant who sug-



gested a heart-shaped annual license sticker, another who used the panda as the city symbol, and one who suggested the slogan, "The buck starts here." Frank Waters emphasized the diamond shape of the city with the slogan "The Nation's Home Plate."

Perhaps the most fascinating slogan was that of a contestant who wanted to add a little order to our lives. She suggested three-letter prefixes to li-

cense numbers that would reveal the occupation of the driver. There were the usual governmental agency ones such as DOT for a transportation department employee, but she had compiled a list of others include DPS for someone in data processing, TVL for a travel agent, PVT for someone who liked to think of themselves as in the private sector and finally for the shamus who wants to come out of the cold, DET for detective.

15 YEARS AGO in the pages of the Gazette

Engineer Commissioner Robert E. Mathe, who was local head of urban renewal from 1955 to 1958, has had some second thoughts about the District's public housing policy at that time. He told a recent meeting that it might have been a mistake to concentrate public housing in NE and SE. Said Mathe: "On reappraisal, maybe it wasn't the best action we took."

Construction is scheduled to start later this year on a 4-story headquarters for the Republican National Committee. The building will be erected across the street from the Cannon House Office Building.

Much of the Halprin Report, which contains plans for improving recreation facilities and beautifying Capitol East, has received wide support from community organizations. Main opposition to aspects of the plan has come from the Capitol Hill Restoration Society, the all-white Southeast Citizens Association and a group of residents on East Capitol St. Restoration Society president Edward Gruis, however, has written a letter to the White House that supports quite a few of the proposals in the plan. . . . The most controversial aspects of the plan appear to be the proposed indoor-outdoor swimming pool at 7th & NC Ave. SE and the paving over of East Capitol St. lawns.

What civic organization on Capitol Hill is worried about its public image and has gone out looking of a "Negro Protestant minister" to help improve it?

What other civic group has been given a green wheelbarrow and a mess of seeds by the White House [beautification office] and then instructed not to tell anybody about it?

It's hard to see how anybody can oppose construction of a swimming pool at 7th & NC SE. The complaints against the idea seem selfish and myopic. Part of the problem appears to be that some people on Capitol Hill have a mild case of paranoia about property values. In truth, nothing short of a concerted masochistic effort by the entire community would cause the decline of unspeculative values in this area. There is no economic, moral or social ground for the miserly attitude some here take against every educational and recreational improvement in Capitol East. We need these improvements and we shall all be helped, not hurt, by them.

SPORTS

FENCING

The Washington area has four major fencing clubs, centered in DC, College Park, Silver Spring and Tysons Corner. Although fencing has long been dominated by European teams, there's a growing interest in the sport in the US. This year the nationals will be held at George Mason University May 28 - June 5. George Mason will also host a competition on April 24-25 at which most of

the US International Team members and hopefuls will take part in preparation for the 1984 Olympics. There are over 250 competitive fencers in the area. To find out more about local fencing, write Michel Mamlouk, 1127 15th St. NW, DC 20005.

WOMENS ICE HOCKEY

Washington's women's ice hockey team, the Washington Redcoats, practices Thursday evenings at Herbert Wells Ice Rink, in College Park, from 930 to 1115 pm. Home games are played at Wells Rink or at the Fort Dupont Ice Rink in DC. Last year the Redcoats made it to the national championship level with an 8-5-3 record.

DC MARATHON

The DC Marathon takes places this year on March 21, sponsored by American Sales Company and Sun Oil. A pre-marathon clinic will be held on March 20 at the Holiday Inn, 550 C SW, at 1130 am.

It is expected that as many as 2000 runners will take place in the second city marathon which covers all of the eight wards. This year the marathon has been moved up a month to remove conflicts with the Boston Marathon and Easter observances. There will be a 5 kilometer fun run that will start on the Mall fifteen minutes after the eight am opening of the major race. To find out about entering the races call the Recreation Department.

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CITY LOG

Fifty matching grants are available to public and private schools, hospitals and public care institutions to perform energy audits in their buildings. For information about obtaining funding contact Howard Ebenstein or Marguerite Cross at 727-1825.

Mayor Barry has announced a \$295,000 program to help lower-income residents east of the Anacostia River to become home owners. Under the program a minimum of 20 qualifying families will receive non-interest loans of up to \$16,000 to purchase homes, co-operatives or condominiums.

A marriage license which costs 50-

cents today will cost \$12 after April 1. Filing for divorce will cost \$45 instead of the present \$5.

Major crime in DC decreased four percent in January compared with the same month last year. Rape was down 24 percent, robbery down 9, burglary and larceny down five. Homicide was up 26% (which the police say represents an increase in drug-related murders) and aggravated assault and auto theft were also up.

A coalition of national and local groups have written to the mayor asking that cable tv legislation now before the city council include a requirement that the

cable tv design commission include representatives of the arts, children, consumers, education, government, labor, minorities and religious organizations.

The Department of Transportation plans to raise parking meter rates downtown this month from 50 cents per hour to 75 cents per hour. Some one-hour meters would be converted to two hour meters where the demand exists.

Housing industry representatives report a marked increase in rental vacancies in the Washington area -- including DC. Estimates are that there are about 25,000 vacancies or twice as many as last year.

THE DC BOOKSHELF



CITIFAX: Facts & figures about DC

CITIFAX: In invaluable collection of facts and figures about DC that you'll find nowhere else. Plus a listing of citywide and ward groups. Topics covered in maps and charts include poverty, industrial land use, per capita income, gross income by wards, office rental rates, school test scores 1975-1980, school enrollment, teachers salaries, comparison of school budget with suburban jurisdictions, private school enrollment by wards, tax revenue by source 1970-1980, tax revenues lost due to the federal presence, changes in the recreation budget, wards and neighborhood commissions, DC neighborhoods, city council committees, comparison of business taxes with other cities, land use in DC by type, recreation and leisure activity sites by ward, average house assessments by neighborhoods, comparison of housing sales prices with other metro areas, results of initiatives and referenda, presidential votes, ward results 1980, 1980 election results, population figures, Metro ridership by month, change in ridership to downtown, prior mode of Metro riders, causes of death. All this for only \$2.00

YESTERDAY'S WASHINGTON: A photographic history of our city that all lovers of DC will want to have. 20% off at \$7.95.

THIRTY-TWO PICTURE POST CARDS OF OLD WASHINGTON, DC. Ready to mail. Rare photos reproduced as post cards in sepia. A different way to stay in touch. \$2.75.

CAPTIVE CAPITAL: Sam Smith tells the story of non-federal Washington. "Not only well worth reading, but it is the best book we are likely to read on Washington," Bryce Nelson of the LA Times. "An excellent gift," Bill Raspberry in the Washington Post. "Must Reading," Afro-American. "A joy to read," Robert Cassidy in the Chicago Tribune.

NOTICE: The Gazette has secured the rights to "Captive Capital" and can now offer it to its readers 40% off the list price of \$10. For Gazette readers: \$6!

BOSS SHEPHERD AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. The fascinating tale of DC's only true political boss and perhaps the most controversial figure in local history. \$3.

PUBLIC BANKING: A MODEL FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. A monograph on how to alter the city's banking system by William Batko of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. \$1.

OLD WASHINGTON, DC, IN EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS: 1846-1932. This is a truly fine collection of over 200 prints that provide an enduring record of this city. \$7.95.

SECRET CITY: Constance Green's history of black Washington. A highly readable trip through the city's black past. \$7.95

JOHN WIEBENSON'S MAP OF WASHINGTON: Done in Wieb's wry and pointed style, this map was drawn for the Bicentennial and is now available for 40% off at \$1.50.

WASHINGTON: Constance Green's Pulitzer Prize-winning comprehensive history of Washington is now available in paperback for only \$9.50. The basic book of DC history.

A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR WASHINGTON STUDIES AND DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR LOCAL COLLECTIONS: This is a revised and enlarged edition of an outstanding bibliography of Washington materials that has been out of print for several years. It has been compiled and annotated by Perry G. Fisher of the Columbia Historical Society and Linda J. Lear of George Washington University. There are nearly 350 entries in the new edition, as well as updated descriptions of the major local collections of Washingtoniana. \$6.

TO: DC GAZETTE, 1739 Conn. Ave. NW, DC 20009

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ALLEY LIFE IN WASHINGTON: Family, Community, Religion and Folklife in the City, 1850-1970. By James Borchert. Borchert challenges conventional wisdom that the impact of the city led to the breakdown of migrants' social institutions. Borchert shows how Washington's alley dwellers adapted patterns that permitted continuity and survival in an often harsh environment. The male-headed nuclear family composed the fundamental unit in this urban subculture, but extended families, kinship networks, alley communities, and folk and religious traditions continued to provide coherence and to help alley dwellers cope with the rigors of everyday life. Forgoing outside assistance, these self-reliant people adjusted to their limited incomes and tiny quarters by using folk cures, remedies, and food sources, as well as by devising ingenious furniture. These crowded but isolated and homogeneous populations were able to shape close-knit communities, with social hierarchies which administered aid and comfort to the needy, but which also punished transgressors. This book is being sold by the Gazette at 20% off list price. \$14.80.

Cars being inspected in DC will now receive a pollution test. There will be no penalty for flunking the test until next January when meeting emissions standards will be required of all cars inspected.

There will be a public hearing on April 12 before the Zoning Commission to consider changes in the rules of practice before the BZA. We understand that some neighborhood commissioners feel the rules unduly restrict the rights of neighborhood commissioners. Neighborhood commissions may want to have their legal beagles check this one out. It's case 82-1.

Polly Shackleton's extremely strict drunk driving bill (#4-389) comes for hearing on March 22 at 2 pm in the council chambers. The bill would make a .10 blood-alcohol level absolute proof that a driver is under the influence. The bill would lower a .10 blood-alcohol level to a .05 percent blood-alcohol level at which a presumption is made that a driver is under the influence. Call LaVerne Tyler at 724-8077 to get on the witness list.

The Association for Work Place Democracy and the National Center for Employee Ownership are holding a series of talks on democratic ownership and management. On March 18, the topic will be participation in the conventional workplace. Four pm at the AFL-CIO, 815 16th St. NW. Admission free. Speakers include Glen Watts, president of the CWA, Sam Camens of the US Steelworkers and Michael MacCoby of the Project on Technology, Work and Character. Info: 265-7727 or 931-2757.

The D.C. Energy Office has urged the D.C. Public Service Commission to reconsider certain elements of a recently approved \$23.3 million PEPCO rate increase which will boost electricity costs for District tenants and lower-income residents.

In an application filed with the PSC, the Energy Office seeks reconsideration of a decision to permit PEPCO to charge commercial rates, which are higher than residential rates, to master-metered apartment buildings. In these buildings, utility costs are included in the rent, and the landlord pays the utility bills.

The Energy Office also asked PSC to reconsider approval of raising the cost of reconnecting electricity service from \$3 to \$15 and to review provisions for increased consumer costs based on fuel costs.

Following four consecutive months of decreases, the District's unemployment rate for December rose to 8.6 percent, a moderate increase over November's 8.4 percent rate.

D.C. Transportation Director Thomas Downs has announced a new hotline service for District residents to report potholes.

The service will operate on the telephone number 282-BEEP from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays.

The service is being provided because of the unusually high number of potholes expected this year as a result of freeze and thaw conditions. Many potholes are caused when water from snow or rain drains into cracks or crevices in the pavement and freezes there. When the water freezes and expands, it puts pressure on weaker portions of the pavement, producing potholes.

The D.C. Department of Employment Services has relocated its Temporary Employment Office from the central office, 500 C Street, N.W., to the Cardozo-Shaw Employment Services Center, 1000 U Street, N.W.

Persons or firms who seek to hire day laborers such as furniture movers, housecleaners, or gardeners, should call the Temporary Employment Office at 673-4510, 11 or 12.

Persons interested in doing day work must register in person at the Cardozo-Shaw Center on the day they are available for work. The office is open weekdays from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Parents United for Full Public School Funding has released an analysis of the contract terms still in dispute between the Washington Teachers' Union and the D.C. Board of Education.

Key recommendations of the study include support for the Board of Education proposal that the school day be extended to 7½ hours and that advancement at 2 points in the 12-step teacher pay scale be tied to quality teaching performance, measured by a fair evaluation system monitored by school officials, teachers and parents. The study also strongly support the Teachers' Union proposal for salary increases, concluding that, "teachers are grossly underpaid for the complex tasks which they are called upon to perform, particularly in urban areas where they confront particularly difficult environments."

ADAMS MORGAN

George Frain

The Washington Post (Feb. 11) carried a 3-column article headline: "Top Business Officials Voice Doubts On Reagan Urban Enterprise Zones." The article said:

"A group of top major corporation executives expressed doubt yesterday that President Reagan's proposal to establish urban enterprise zones would bring about a rebirth of declining American cities or that corporate philanthropy would fill the void left by deep cutbacks in federal domestic spending."

Speaking for the major corporation executives was the prestigious Committee for Economic Development. In a new report, the CED said the best hope for urban areas is for business and local governments to put aside historic conflicts and mutual acrimony and form partnerships to keep existing firms, attract new ones, create jobs for the disadvantaged and improve conditions in aging neighborhoods.

The CED study, four years in the making, declared that corporations have more than money to give. Their resources also include the company's personnel, facilities and services, reputation and leadership and business investments and operations.

Getting a jump on the CED and the Reagan administration, a group of civic leaders with the help of the 18th and Columbia Road Business Association, Perpetual American Federal Savings and Loan, the American Security Bank, Adams Morgan ANC District 1-C, and AMO, have launched the Adams Morgan Community Development Corporation which does involve business, government, and the community working together. CDCs are authorized by the Congress and are active in many cities.

It is one of the most helpful and promising developments in the long history of Adams Morgan.

The new Board of Directors of the AM-CDC held its first meeting on December 15. The following board members were present: John Jones and Edward Jackson representing the ANC 1-C; Harold Smith and Lydia Martin from AMO; George Frain from the 18th and Columbia Road Business Association; Alberto Gomez from the Council of Hispanic Agencies; Audrey Epperson from the Dorchester tenants association; Ron Tucker from the Plaza West tenants; James Vitarello from CACE; Lawrence Karr from the Kalorama Citizens Association; Walter Pierce and Lili Iranani representing the individual members of the Adams Morgan CDC. The AM-CDC is broadly representative of the community.

Temporary officers were elected, chairman John Jones; vice chairman James Vitarello; secretary George Frain; treasurer Harold Smith.

CDCs are community development corporations created to provide new employment opportunities, carry out housing rehabilitation and development, and develop vacant land in accordance with resident priorities and needs.

Helping to get the Adams Morgan CDC off to a suc-

cessful start was a \$2,000 contribution from the American Security Bank, and a \$1,000 gift from Perpetual American Federal Savings and Loan.

The D.C. City Council with the help of Councilman David A. Clarke earmarked \$150,000 for the AM-CDC from the huge Community Development Block Grant funds, most of which have gone to aid the downtown commercial urban renewal area. This \$150,000 is the first CDBG monies which have found their way into the Adams Morgan area to assist community development for greater employment opportunities.

Juan Pablo Otero, the manager of the Adams Morgan branch of the American Security Bank, has just been appointed to the AM-CDC by the 18th and Columbia Road Business Association, which hopes for greater access to credit by small businesses and micro businesses in Adams Morgan, through the city's Local Development Corporation, connected to the Small Business Administration.

The Institute for Local Self-Reliance, in a study of the Adams Morgan business area, found that 43 percent of the total number of stores have three or fewer employees. These are the very small stores which most often are minority-owned. The study found it was these stores which are most vulnerable to a cash squeeze. The study concluded that: "Were these stores to expand, the average salaries would tend to rise, increasing the residual multiplying effects in the community."

The Institute study pointed out that chain stores, comprising only 4 percent of the total number of stores in Adams Morgan do 21 percent of the business in the neighborhood, and chains have access to money markets while small businesses do not.

The Institute study reported that a comprehensive analysis by the Real Estate Research Corporation concluded that the costs of urban renewal programs were borne primarily by poor communities while their benefits went primarily to downtown business interests.

A number of studies have called for more jobs in the Adams Morgan community, among them are: 1) the study by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance; 2) the Washington Urban League study published in January 1979 titled "Speak Out for Survival;" 3) a study by the city's Latino Affairs Office and the Council of Hispanic Agencies in early 1980.

President Carter in May 1980 said that small businesses employed more than half of the American labor force and produce 48 percent of the gross national product. Of the District's 600,000 jobs (over 350,000 are with the federal government) 25 percent are in businesses which employ fewer than 10 people.

It is clear the Adams Morgan CDC has its work cut out for it. With luck and perseverance, it may help to re-order the city's priorities which to date have consisted of an incurable and expensive romance with the downtown commercial urban renewal project area which got everything it demanded while the inner city areas got the crumbs and most of the time not even that.

George Frain is Secretary of the 18th and Columbia Road Business Association and long-time activist in the Adams Morgan area.

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WARD TWO NEWS

Dupont Circle

Democrats registered in Ward 2 who are interested in forming a ward Democratic organization are invited to meet on May 18 following the ward caucus to nominate delegate candidates to the 1982 Democratic Mid-Term Conference. Location of the caucus can be obtained by calling the Democratic State Committee at 347-5670. The Washington Women Art Center is offering spring workshops. Call 332-2121 for details. Gallery Ten will be showing the work of Bill Harris this month.

§

The Dupont Circle Neighborhood Commission wants the Rental Accommodations Office to explain why the 1500 Mass Ave. Tenants Association has not yet received its award of \$30,000 for lack of air conditioning two summers ago. The Foggy Bottom Neighborhood Commission has come out against three George Washington University parking lots now before the BZA. The group has also asked the city reroute the M12 shuttle bus away from 24th St.

§

The Dupont Circle Citizens Association has voted in support of no-fault automobile insurance. The city is seeking to lease 15,400 square feet of space in tunnels under Dupont Circle. The tunnels were originally part of the streetcar system and were used as terminals for trolleys. After the cars were taken out of service in the 1960s, the

space was used to store civil defense rations. The tunnels have been unused since 1974. Says DC General Services Director Harold Henson: "The use of this area for stores or restaurants or other commercial uses would add to revenues, jobs and services. We hope that we will receive some interesting proposals." Deadline for proposals is March 25.

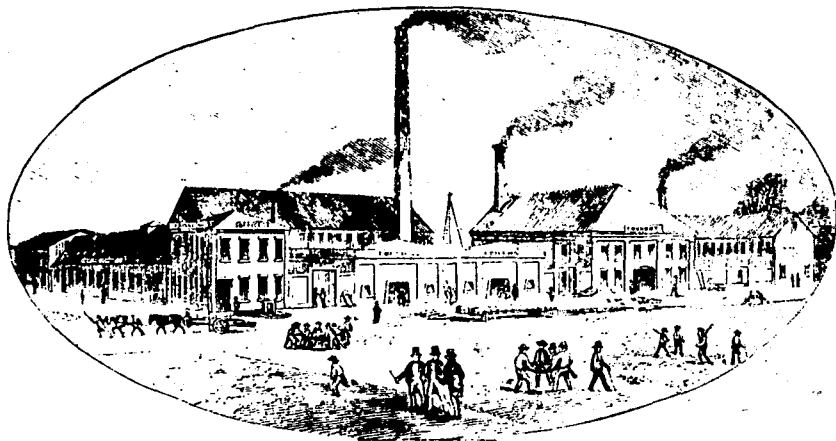
DUPONT CIRCLE ANC

Office: 1722 19th NW, DC 20009

2B01 Page MacCubbin 387-3688
2B02 Bill Middleton 797-1086
2B03 George Nelson 387-5312
2B04 Katherine Ray 296-5149
2B05 Susan Meehan 234-5151
2B06 Ralph Bristol 667-9026
2B07 Ken Rothschild 659-3458
2B08
2B09 Linda Menich 483-3281

Southwest

A huge new design center, patterned on the Merchandise Mart in Chicago will start rising on the Southwest landscape this year. The Design Center is a \$20 million project that will include the renovation of a seven-story 1923 structure at 4th & D SW as well as the addition of a new 190,000 square foot building. Completion is expected by the end of 1983. The Design Center will house more than 200 home furnishings showrooms, selling to the trade.



THE IDEA MILL

High School juniors and seniors can get a head start on preparing for the college entrance exams and college by taking two informal courses at American University. The SAT Preparation Course, to be held for six Saturdays beginning March 20, will include a practice exam. Another course, "So, You're Thinking About College?" helps students prepare college applications, arrange campus visits and practice for interviews. Application procedures and questions used by specific schools will be discussed. The hour-long course will be held on five Wednesdays beginning March 24. Info: 686-2500, Division of Continuing Education.

American University offers a summer enrichment program for gifted and talented students beginning June 21. The program for children 6-12 will consist of three two-week sessions throughout the summer. Students will concentrate on three areas: mathematics and computers, the sciences and creative expression. In addition, tennis instruction will be available. There is a \$250 fee. Info: 686-6802.

WARD THREE NEWS

Van Ness

The National Capital Planning Commission has given its approval to plans for nine embassies and/or chanceries on the land behind the new International Telecommunications Satellite Organization headquarters. The approved plans also allow for 14 additional countries to build on the site. About six acres of woods will be left after the one-acre plots are used up. The projects will mean a substantial increase in workday population in the area. The Intelstat building, which initially will have only 550 employees may reach a level of 1300 workers. Some 600 employees will work at the nine approved embassy sites and another 600 could work at the sites not yet claimed by a nation. In addition, UDC is expecting a thousand more students at its adjoining Van Ness campus.

Garden tour

The Georgetown Garden Tour will take place this year on Saturday, April 24 from 1030 am to 5 pm. This is the fifty-fourth years of the garden tour, which is held for the benefit of the Georgetown Children's House. Among the gardens on the tour this year will be Dumbarton Oaks, the Italianate gardens of Evermay, and the six-level garden of Mr. and Mrs. Averill Harriman. In addition, three low-maintenance gardens will be on the tour as well as six other gardens of special interest. All gardens are east of Wisconsin Avenue and most are a few minutes walk from each other. Limited shuttle service will be available for the longer stretches and for those in need of assistance. Box lunches at \$5 each are available if orders are received before April 17. Tickets are \$8 on the day of the tour and \$7 in advance. Info: 333-4953.

Reno Road

An interim report on Reno Road by the city's transportation department has found that traffic on the controversial street dropped 26% during morning rush hour after the city restricted travel there to one lane. Traffic on Connecticut Avenue increased 14% and Wisconsin Avenue traffic increased 7%. There was also a 9% decrease in evening rush hour traffic on Reno Road despite the fact that two lane travel was permitted. Speeds on Reno during the morning rush hour dropped 5-6 miles per hour.

The department, however, also reported substantially increased traffic on side streets, which critics of the Reno Road plan said would occur. Side streets affected included McKinley, Morrison, Livingston, Military, Chesapeake, Bran-

dywine, Albermarle, Warren, Van Ness, Porter and Macomb. Supporters of the plan suggested that this problem could be alleviated if the department would prohibit turns at some locations and install stop signs along the side streets to slow traffic.

Residents of Porter Street turned out in large numbers at a recent meeting held to discuss the plan. It was announced that they had collected petitions calling for four-way stops, speed bumps, turn prohibitions, and two-side parking to reduce the problem of Porter Street being, in the words of one resident, "a speedway from Wisconsin down to Connecticut. Another resident said, "I don't walk on the downbound side of Porter St. because I've seen the car tracks on the lawns and mailboxes and trees knocked down." Urban planner and Cleveland Park resident Harry Montague called on the city to "look at the whole area" and not just at Reno Road. A member of the Reno Road coalition said his group was concerned about the side-street problems and would work to correct them. John Kuhnle, a advocate of Reno traffic reduction pointed out that before the experiment, Reno was carrying more cars per lane than either Connecticut or Wisconsin. Several members of the John Eaton safety patrol also spoke at the meeting. Jonah Edelman reported that "at three o'clock the cars (northbound) take advantage of the two lanes and speed."

A public hearing will be held in the spring on the plan.

Ward III notes

Phil Mendolson has been elected the new chair of the Cleveland Park-Woodley Park Neighborhood Commission. Patricia Wamsley was elected vice chair; Lyn Ohman, treasurer and Francis Threadgill, secretary. At a recent meeting the commission voted to support a

zoning variance that would permit a day care center at the Washington Hebre Congregation at 3935 Macomb St. NW. Zachariah Blackistone celebrated his 111th birthday in February. He is the world's oldest known florist and the senior member of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia. Thoughts from the Alice Deal newspaper, the Real Deal, on the subject of dress codes: "Who is to say what is offensive clothing and what isn't? The Real Deal thinks cut-off shorts and sweatsuits hardly can be considered offensive unless they are extremely tight, short, or smelly. The Real Deal is not advocating that students be allowed to wear just anything to school. Some items of clothing can disrupt the learning process, such as hats with ears and snouts and see-through blouses." American University is seeking a zoning variance to turn the old Baptist Home into a dormitory. Former school board member Carol Schwartz and her husband David were in a head-on collision some weeks back. They were not badly injured and both are back on the go. Mark Plotkin, who's running for the city council in Ward Three has rounded up a lawyers committee to support him. The committee is chaired by David Schlitz. Other members include Ray Benton, Ray Calmaro, Gerald Cohen, James Craddock, Edward Hughes, James Kenin, Stephen Kupferber, Peter Kyros Jr. and Richard Millman. A European combine called Cowen Mountain Inc. has bought the Flour Mill complex in Georgetown for around \$20 million. Cowen Mountain is building a \$50 million project in Alexandria. Georgetown University reports that it raised \$24 million during the last academic year. In 1979-80 it only received \$11 million in gifts. Included in the gifts were two \$1 million contributions. Heard in the ward: "Do you realize that if Gloria Corn runs against Carol Schwartz in the Republican Council primary, Carol will

be known as the 'shy one?' The Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union was the high bidder at the DC government's recent auction of the Corcoran School in Georgetown. The union paid \$1.8 million for the building.

The Wilson Pool is back in operation after being closed for repairs. Spring-time hours of the pool are 330-9 pm on weekdays and 10-4 on Saturdays. Info: 282-2216 Polly Shackleton reports problems with the L2 buses not running as frequently as promised during the morning rush hour. The new L2 route (Chevy Chase Circle-McPherson Square) was established by Metro after NW residents complained about the lack of bus service planned after the opening of the subway to Van Ness. Shackleton also reports that "there are apparently too few northbound buses available during the evening rush hour to accomodate subway passengers getting off at the Van Ness station." Robert Cline was elected chair of the North Cleveland Park/Forest Hills ANC recently. Vice chair is Gloria Corn. The Chevy Chase ANC elected Allen Beach as its chair and Lee Schoenecker as vice chair. Woodrow Wilson High's "It's Academic" team beat Largo and JEB Stuart in a recent Channel Four match. Playoff match in April. WW sent a delegation to Uganda to take part in the Model United Nations.

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The Design Store Corporation, which opened a store in Georgetown in 1968 and expanded into seven outlets in the DC area and Atlanta, filed for bankruptcy last month. The Georgetown store will be closed as will several suburban stores. Operations will be consolidated into the Tysons Corner store while the Design Store attempts a reorganization. Owner Stephen Newman blamed "extremely depressed home furniture sales" in the area and a disastrous January for the business failure. He estimated that sales were running at about fifty percent of what they should be at this time.

THE AGE OF HEARST

If Washington's climate is conducive to anything, it is certainly museums. We have a fine crop. In January a new one sprouted at 37th & Tilden Streets, N.W. The twenty-six students in the Hearst sixth grade produced "American Artifacts in the Age of Hearst," at the Hearst Gallery of Archaeology. This culminated a first semester enrichment unit at the public school. The class shared their project with Hearst's Pre-K through fifth graders, Eaton's Pre-K and Kindergarten and intermediate students from Sidwell Friends.

Each student visitor received a "Pre-Visit Museum Kit" which included a glossary, a tool matching game, a crossword puzzle and a reconstruction puzzle. These were designed and executed by the inchoate archaeologists.

The museum was constructed in the school's "Big Room" on the second floor. As visitors entered, they were ushered to the theater. A slide show introduced the resource personnel for the project: archaeologists Barbara Magid and Dr. David Clark, three surveyors from the District of Columbia, Hearst-Eaton enrichment co-ordinator Rives Carroll and sixth grade teacher Muriel Logan. The artifacts made their initial, soil-splotted appearance as well. The slide show was followed by a film of the students working in the trenches of the dig, located behind the school and Hearst Recreation Center's "Little House." The student narrations were concise yet relaxed. Their off-hand quality came from self-confidence and familiarity with the material.

Eleven and twelve year-old docents escorted small groups of students from the theater to the Map and Correspondence Display. There were street and topograph-

ical maps. Letters to Prisca Weems from the National Archives and Michelle Penner from the Recorder of the Deeds reflected the students' search for information regarding the Nourse family estate, "The Highlands," site of the Hearst complex. Heather Dougherty and Ned Ramsey compiled an oral history report on their interview with Washington Home resident Flora Brown, who lived in the "Little House" (originally one of The Highlands' tenant houses) from 1891 to 1914.

From this area visitors entered the exhibit room. The cases were built by the students. Their attention to detail included fabric linings and inobtrusive mountings. The artifacts from the six trenches included a key and chain, a good luck charm, a reconstructed bottle, shards of tile and crockery, and samples of metal and rock. All had been carefully cleaned and labeled. A representative from each trench team was on hand to answer questions.

As Mrs. Logan's students move through any history curriculum they will carry an appreciation of the pursuit of the past unavailable from reading or visiting our conventional museums. In addition to students named above, the sixth grade includes Henry Achmad, Reiss Allen, Lamine Conde, Michael Crockett, David Danzig, Maria Davi'a, Bitt Gell, Adam Guyot, Al Howard, Chris Johnson, Alex McDiarmid, Sharleta Michel, Peter O'Connor, Alissa Pearce, Olivier Pouillon, Gabriel Rojo, Nadi Savio-Goldberg, Jerry Semper, Malcolm Stewart, Christine Voigtland, Matthew Wheelock and Welcome Zwame.

—Kathleen Reilly Mannix

WARD FOUR NEWS

Neighborhood Commission 4B has elected Edwin Cunningham its chair for this year. Gloria Johnson is vice chair. Vantille Whitfield, who has been active in the arts and teaching, has been reappointed to the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. The Whistle Stop bar on 4th St. remains closed while the Appeals Court reviews an appeal of the ABC Board's decision to deny it a liquor license. Several neighborhood groups have petitioned to intervene in the case. Henry Allen talks about proper harvesting and storage, plus extending the vegetable garden on April 19 at the Takoma Horticultural Club. Meetings are held on the third Monday at the Takoma Park Municipal Center, 7500 Maple Ave, Takoma Park, at 8 pm. To join the club send \$5 to Kenneth Hoggart, treasurer, 9302 Wire Ave., Silver Spring Md. Hugh A. Carter, who was first vice president of the Brightwood Community Association, died in December. One of his last civic endeavors was a successful effort to get the city to plant trees in the 1300 block of Tuckerman St. Houston Baker and Charles Shelton have been named by Mayor Barry to the DC General Hospital Commission. Baker teaches at Howard and Shelton, who is being reappointed, is a retired government worker and proprietor of a landscaping business. He has also served with Neighborhood Commission 4B.

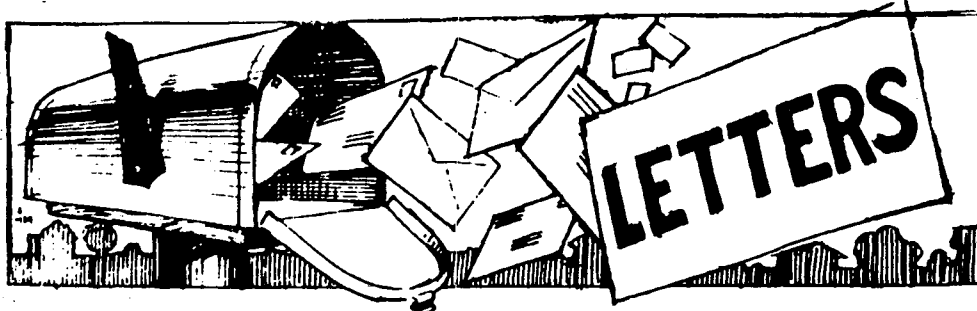
Saturday, March 20th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church will hold its annual "Grandma's Attic." The public is invited to come and shop the bargains. Our booths include plants and religious articles, arts and crafts, books and records plus a "White Elephant" sale.

Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church is located at 7164 Alaska Ave., N.W., just across the street from Walter Reed Army Hospital. Information: 385-1186.

WARD SIX NEWS

Residents of the Ellen Wilson public housing complex are complaining of numerous problems. An investigation by the Capitol Hill-Southeast Neighborhood Commission found a lack of courtyard lights, heat, hot water, windows and security. The mayor's office says it will spend \$24,000 to repair doors and windows and St. Mark's and Friendship House have said they'll help as well. The Capitol Hill Garden and Gourmet Auction will be held on Saturday, April 3 at 630 pm in the Great Hall of

the Folger Library. The auction will benefit the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, Brent PTA and the Capitol East Children's Center. There's a \$10 admission charge which includes buffet dinner and wine as well as an auction catalog and bid number. Info: 547-6839 or 546-6966. The Potomac Gardens Neighborhood Health Center has been closed due to the opening of the new Arthur Capper Neighborhood Health Center at 7th & L SE. The Rental Accommodations Office has ordered Hyattsville dentist Bernard Totz to pay about \$48,000 to 22 former tenants of a 16-unit building at 529 G SE for overcharging them in rent. Totz, who has since sold



I was amazed at the incredible gall displayed by UDC's President Carter in his *Post* article of January 24th. The temerity in his implication that he predates all UDC employees is outrageous. Indeed, most of us were here before Carter arrived and all of us will be here when he, happily shortly, departs.

President Carter outlined all the advances of UDC in the past few years hinting strongly that he was responsible for them. In actuality many feel these advances occurred despite the apathy and incompetence of Carter, the part-time president. And, as a matter of fact, it is clear to a very unhappy and dissatisfied faculty that in most matters of facilities, support services, faculty relations, and student support the school is sadly lacking and slipping backwards.

- **FACILITIES:** How can a brand new campus deteriorate as rapidly as our 'showpiece' at Van Ness? A recent Faculty Senate Committee investigation revealed dozens of potentially serious structural and planning defects. Heat has been out

the building, says he plans to appeal. The Capitol Hill -- Southeast Neighborhood Commission has endorsed a plan to ban trucks on 4th and 6th Street between Virginia and Pennsylvania Avenues but has asked that the ban be extended to Massachusetts Ave. The Capitol Hill Arts Workshop presents "Bus Stop" the last two weekends of the month. "The Tempest" is at the Folger through the end of the month. Sears is closing its Bladensburg Road stores in April, blaming the demise of the 52-year old store on low sales and high operating costs. It's the first closing of a major department store in DC since 1975.

in several buildings for up to two months at a time. Elevators are often out of service or stuck between floors. On several occasions students have been trapped for several hours because UDC maintenance people were unwilling to leave their offices or unable to work the elevator.

- **SUPPORT SERVICES:** The print shop, for example, is notorious for taking a month or more to print up 'rush' documents needed for classes. On the other hand President Carter's fancy Christmas cards were accorded special treatment. We know where his priorities lay.
- **FACULTY RELATIONS:** Facilities and offices are unspeakably bad. Most faculty are squeezed two to small cubicles. Is this the way to attract new top quality people to our institution? No! It is the way to create a demoralized and angry faculty.
- **STUDENT SUPPORT:** So registration went "without a hitch." I wish President Carter could

THE REGION

DC city councilmember Jerry A. Moore, Jr. has been elected chairman of the Board of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Rev. Moore also served as chairman in part of 1970, in 1973 and in 1979.

David G. Hartlove, a member of the Prince George's County Council, and Dorothy Grotos, a member of the Arlington County Board, were elected vice chairman and second vice chairman, respectively.

Mayor Barry has announced that an \$884,000 regional study of trash and sludge disposal alternatives is under way. The timetable calls for a regional agreement for the best solution to these long-term problems as early as next fall.

The study is being carried out by consultants with continuing citizen participation. A series of alternatives will be developed for regional sludge and trash disposal with a focus on options for recovery and recycling of waste products for sale or use. At present, disposal is costly, and identifying landfill and other disposal sites has been an increasingly difficult problem for the District and surrounding jurisdictions.

Greater Washington Americans for Democratic Action has released its 1981 voting record for Washington area senators and representatives. Its findings are based on voting patterns which reflect the ADA's position on current issues as compared with those opposed to them.

The ADA gives each member a Legislative Quotient --

ranging from zero to 100 -- with points given to votes endorsing ADA positions.

In Maryland, senators and representatives, with the exception of Rep. Marjorie Holt (4th District R.), had good records, while the records for Virginia officials were poor. Virginia's 8th District Representative Stan Parris (R) had a 1981 rating of 5, compared with that of his predecessor Herb Harris' (D) 1980 rating of 89. In the 10th District, Frank Wolf (R) drew a rating of 10; his predecessor Joe Fisher (D) had a 1980 rating of 83.

The ADA ratings are:

Maryland

Senate:	Paul Sarbanes (D)	95
	Charles Mathias (R)	50

House:

4th D.	Marjorie Holt (R)	10
5th D.	Steny Hoyer (D)	72
8th D.	Michael Barnes (D)	95

Virginia:

Senate:	Harry Byrd (I)	10
	John Warner (R)	5

House:

8th D.	Stanford Parris (R)	5
10th D.	Frank Wolf (R)	10

have told that to students who stood in lines for 4 to 5 hours at a time! I wish President Carter could have told that to faculty who wondered why a 6-week early registration period was required!! I wish President Carter could have told that to students who were informed incorrectly that they were on academic probation and could only take 3 courses! Actually I wish President Carter would have had the misfortune of having to go through registration himself! "Without a hitch," indeed.

- More examples are a dime a dozen. I could talk about accounting procedures that delay checks for four months, or about a registrar's office that takes two years to correct its errors, or about a bookstore that takes a month to get all its required books in stock. The list of these snafus could be quite long indeed. The university administration is uninterested in these seemingly 'trivial' matters.

President Carter, and indeed, the bulk of the administration has lost their sense of the university. President Eisenhower, when he was at Columbia, said that the faculty was the university. At UDC the faculty seems to have been left out of the university.

I have talked with many of the faculty in most of the colleges. The feeling that pervades us is that no one 'up' there is at all concerned about the quality of the product we sell. And after all, that is our reason for being: if a first rate education is not our top priority, then what is? President Carter's Christmas list?

HAROLD GOLDSTEIN
Washington, D.C.

Common Capital Fund is accepting applications for funding from D.C. groups. All applications must be submitted by 5 p.m., Thursday, April 15. No exceptions.

Common Capital Fund provides small grants, averaging \$2,000, to D.C. self-help projects seeking to empower D.C. residents for progressive social change. Specifically, we support projects that are:

- organizing low income and working people or support such organizing
- working for a society free from discrimination by race, religion, sex, age, economic status, sexual preference, ethnic background or special disabilities
- operating in a democratic manner and being responsive to the constituencies they serve
- promoting the self-determination of Third World and low income people

Last year, our first year of grantmaking, we awarded \$42,000 to 22 projects.

For guidelines and how to apply, call Tim Siegel and Phyllis Jones, 265-1305. Grant applications may be submitted in Spanish.

Interested in cervical caps? Send \$3 to Washington Women's Self Help, P.O. Box 1604, Washington D.C. 20013 for a comprehensive literature packet. Or call 462-3224.

Twelve married couples are needed to help a psychology student at the Catholic University of America complete her dissertation on communication and problem-solving in marriage.

Lynne Hornyak, a sixth-year doctoral student who is doing the research, is interested in interviewing couples who are hesitant to share their thoughts or feelings with each other or who are having communication problems.

Participants in the study will be asked to complete a 15-item questionnaire and will be required to attend a two-hour discussion session on the Catholic University campus in northeast Washington at a time arranged for their convenience.

During the informal session, which will be recorded, the participants will be asked to talk alone with their spouses about specific topics and then will be paired with the husband or wife from another couple for further discussion.

In return for their participation, the 12 couples will be offered \$10 or a weekend communications workshop to be conducted in the spring at Catholic University by Ms. Hornyak.

Married couples who want more information or who want to volunteer as participants in the research should contact Ms. Hornyak at 243-0046 at Catholic University's Department of Psychology at 635-5750.

**FREE
PARKING**

How to give away more money to social change projects and save money is the subject of a new book on charitable giving called *The Gift-Giving Guide*.

Published by the Funding Exchange, a national organization of social change foundations, with the Common Capital Fund, a Washington-based member fund, *The Gift-Giving Guide* unravels the complexities of charitable deduction in lay language.

In an easy-to-read question and answer format, the 75-page guide explains the "ABCs" of tax-deductible and non tax-deductible giving, from defining what the IRS means by "charitable" to "charitable lead trusts." Tax implications are made clear with simple examples.

The book closes with two chapters on the uses of loans and wills. For example, it shows how to avoid a contested will, and what special provisions you may have to make if you are gay.

Stanley Weithorn, a nationally recognized expert on charitable giving, assisted in writing *The Gift-Giving Guide*.

You can order a copy from Common Capital Fund (2451 18th NW, DC 20009) for \$6.50. Add \$1.00 for mailing costs.

Herpes sufferers can obtain low cost diagnoses and free counseling and information from HELP of Washington in the Basic Science Building at Georgetown University.

Although doctors have identified at least 70 varieties of herpes affecting children and adults, people are wary of seeking help because of the perceived stigma.

According to Bill Hibbs, Executive Director of HELP of Washington, "Herpes has reached epidemic proportions in this area. Participants in our program will be able to obtain a Herpes diagnosis at one-third the standard cost. Our goals are to make Herpes diagnoses more easily available and hopefully, through awareness and education, reduce transmission." Info: 452-8408.

CITY TALK



Dealing with C&P

From Mark Plotkin, a candidate in the Democratic primary for the Ward III city council seat.

As the cost of energy has soared, D.C. residents are presented with heating bills that are staggering. Because Washington Gas and Pepco have a monopoly, there is nowhere else to turn—you have to pay the bill or you do without. Sure, the power companies deserve a fair rate of return on their investment, but how is that rate determined, who determines it, and what recourse do consumers have if they don't like the way the service is regulated in D.C.?

Not much, since the Public Service Commission is personally appointed by the mayor and so does not have to answer directly to the citizenry—unlike similar commissions in many states in the United States.

We enjoy superior phone service in the District. That service is supposed to be cheap enough that all can afford it. But with the recently mandated divestiture of the local phone companies from AT&T, there are indications that local service costs will skyrocket—having a devastating impact on communications for the poor; causing added financial strain for the middle class; and increasing overhead costs for beleaguered small businesses, which must be passed on to the consumer. Locally we have an even more imminent additional problem, for C&P has asked the Public Service Commission for its largest rate increase ever—totaling a mind-boggling 75.1 million dollars. And this comes after a sizeable rate increase just last June.

What's in the proposed increase? Installation costs would jump almost 300%, calls to information from

a dime to 25 cents—remember when it was free? Regular monthly service would jump over 70%.

In addition, and far more alarming, C&P has asked to experiment in D.C. with a new revenue producer called Measured Rate Service. MRS is just a euphemism for charging for local calls the same way we are charged for long distance—on the basis of time and distance. What will this do to the way we communicate with our family, friends, doctor, clergyman?

- Will senior citizens on fixed incomes now be afraid to talk with their children and grandchildren who live across town because it's too expensive?
- And, what about their calls to physicians to describe symptoms when they are ill—will they have to rush through these?
- Will we have to do away with all the pleasantries on a phone call and get right to "business" because C&P wants to change the way District residents communicate? Is it their right to not only charge more, but to directly affect the way we communicate?

These and other critical decisions are too important to be left to three anonymous people who sit on the PSC. In no way do I want to minimize the efforts of these current commissioners, but by the very fact that they are not household names we must realize how critical it is to make them responsive to the people they serve—you and me. These are critical times in the regulatory arena, and government officials making these decisions must be directly responsible to the electorate. They must not be patronage appointees.

I call for the nonpartisan, city-wide election of PSC members for four-year terms. Recognizing that this change must be approved by the Congress, I call on the mayor and the city council to move expeditiously and to support elected PSC commissioners. The council should pass a resolution calling for the direct election of the PSC, and then work with the mayor and Congressman Fauntroy for introduction of federal legislation to accomplish this.

Secondly, I call on the C&P Telephone Company to immediately withdraw its request to the PSC, contained in tariff filing 777, for Measured Rate Service. I and over 40 other citizens testified against this in the fall of 1981 at hearings before the PSC. Not one person testified for MRS, except the phone company representative. Even the Communication Workers of America, the phone company union, whose jobs and pay depend on phone company revenues, testified against this proposal.

C&P should act responsibly now in the public interest and withdraw this repugnant proposal—an idea whose time should never come and certainly not in D.C.

Stiffing the city

From the DC Mental Health Association:

The Reagan administration is trying to "stiff" the city over St. Elizabeths Hospital. Earlier this year the administration proposed closing the hospital on October 1. That proposal was hit by D.C. Government and citizens groups as "ill-advised" and "unconscionable" at a community forum sponsored by the association. Some of the groups testifying at the hearing accused the administration of using the closure plan as a smoke-screen to later cut funding for the hospital.

OMB has lived up to those fears. But the administration has found an even more cunning machiavellian budget strategy. It has cut its funding of the hospital by approximately \$24 million while raising the federal

payment by an equal amount and at the same time raising the District share of funding the hospital by approximately \$24 million.

This is a budget shell-game. The administration is trying to win points for assisting the District without providing any additional funding. By presenting the SEH budget at current levels, even though its own share of that budget is cut by a fourth, the administration is trying to sneak out the back door of the budget. The truth is that the Reagan Administration is proposing a massive budget cut in necessary federal funding. These cuts are a violation of repeated federal commitments to the hospital and are grossly inconsistent with the agreement to abide by the Dixon Plan mandated by the courts.

Life at DOT

From James Clark, formerly the city's acting director of transportation:

"City Hopes to Make Its Traffic Sentinels March in Step" (Sunday, November 22, 1981) and other recent stories in the Washington Post are grim reminders of some personnel injustices at the D.C. Department of Transportation. This is not readily apparent from the traffic signal story; in fact, that article makes the city's top traffic engineer appear somewhat illustrious and titles him as the "traffic engineering chief."

Why not? Indeed, the city's traffic engineering chief has been performing that function for nearly four years. All of the city's never ending traffic regulation changes are prepared at his direction. He is in charge of the several hundred invaluable workers who care for traffic signals, as decrepit as they are, who must install and replace the myriad traffic and parking signs on the 1000 miles of city streets, and who lay down the paint marks that show the way for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The traffic engineering chief had prime responsibility for executing the Thirteenth Street, N.W., traffic reduction plan, the equally successful and heralded closure of the Logan Circle inner roadways, and the experimental Reno Road traffic diversion plan. And

during each and every snow storm event, the chief traffic engineer is on the job, sometimes without a break for 24 hours, carrying out the responsibilities of the small executive circle that must decide when, where, and how many workers to deploy in the fight against impassable streets.

So what's the fuss? The city's chief traffic engineer has never been appointed to the post, which is officially called the Assistant Director of Transportation for Traffic Engineering and Operations. To be sure, he is charged with the responsibility and is called the *acting* assistant director. But he does not draw the salary to which he is entitled and cannot claim the distinction of being the city's traffic engineering chief without adding the ominous sounding "acting" prefix. Now rumor has it that the transportation department director does not intend to ever confer the full title on this dedicated and competent public servant. Moreover, the current director has had almost a year to make an appointment to this very critical position, despite his reported reputation of being a super manager.

If a recent appointment that was made by the director is any indication of the caliber of traffic engineer in store for the city, citizens had better beware. Another assistant director slot is over the policy and physical planning of the department. The Assistant Director for Transportation Policies and Plans is responsible for developing new traffic patterns when needed, evaluating the transportation impacts of all proposed zoning changes and new land use developments, and formulating street and bridge needs estimates, just to name a few of the important duties of this post. That position was vacated in February 1981. Six months later it was filled. The promptness is credible. But would you believe that the chief transportation planner for the District of Columbia is trained not in city planning, not in transportation planning, nor in civil engineering, but instead in journalism and public affairs. No wonder the decision was made to use scarce planning funds to newly furnish and decorate the director's office.

The public asks for and has a right to expect its officials to be expert in their work. But so far, in the D.C. Department of Transportation, being an expert is a liability. That is an injustice that can ultimately affect us all.

